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CRUISE FOR A CORPSE



AMIGA



CRUISE FOR A CORPSE

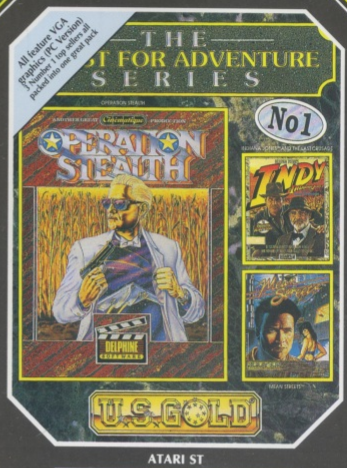
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THE GODFATHER™ - THE ACTION GAME

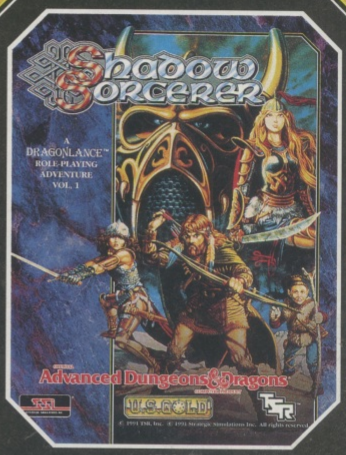
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keyboard by BESWICK DESIGNS





Be very afraid. . . terror in the cosmos in the blood 'n' guts Space Gun, page 81.



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138 COLOUR PRINTS FROM MONO PRINTERS
Strange but true – and it could save you a fortune! Read on – and get the ultimate from your black and white printer. . . .

coverdisks

This month's brace of floppies is bristling with utilities and the best in playable demos. Disk 24 presents two contenders for the Christmas number one – Space Gun and Big Run. Meanwhile, Disk 25 offers twelve poster fonts, a superb animation, a brilliant sample mixer, an Etch-a-sketch sim and a keymap program.

coverdisks 24 & 25









GAMES

52 A brilliant way to start the new year, with Virgin Games' superb new role-player, Knightmare, and Sierra's pretty and oriental, Heart of China. In addition, we also have Space Gun, Realms, Space 1889, Rules of Engagement, Space Ace 2, Airbus, plus, from the team that made football come alive, comes Tip Off, a new basketball sim.

TECHNICAL

145 MEMORY ON THE CHEAP So you've just forked out £400 for a new computer. Don't worry, you can back-up all of your data for next to nothing.

149 ROAD TO NOWHERE How do you get from Skegness to Scunthorpe and where are the loo stops en route? CU takes a look at the essential program for backseat drivers.

153 SIX OF THE BEST Schooling can be fun, especially with the release of the long-awaited Fun School 4.

171 LASER LOVE Star Printers have an excellent reputation, particularly among first-time buyers. Now they've released a laser printer. Can it match it's more expensive rivals?

178 SPRITES, CAMERA, ACTION Zipedee-doo-dah! Director 2 lets the user make true Disney quality animations. We've got the review in the can.

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31 Win a whole year's worth of **Microprose** goodies, including **Knights of the Sky** and **Midwinter 2**, plus vote in the Golden Joysticks and win £500 worth of top-class entertainment





Half nelsons and havoc in Ocean software's beer belly brawl

REVIEWS

A blinder of an issue, with more great games than you can wave a dirty stick at. *Realms* puts in an impressive performance, while *Airbus* ascends to new heights in civil aviation simulation. Meanwhile, *Space Gun*, *Tip Off* and *Knightmare* are jostling for the coveted Christmas number one slot.

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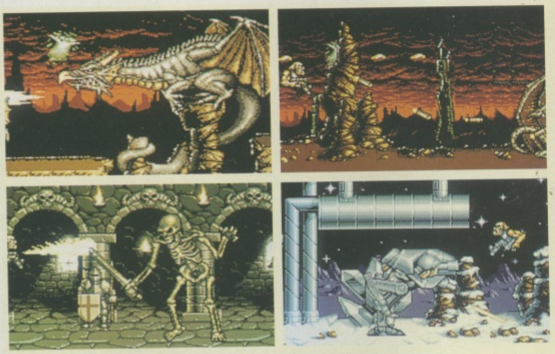
BUZZ

Meet the CU crew at the 16-bit Computer Show. . . World's best pinball sim from 21st Century? . . . Commodore and Japanese in CDTV venture. . . New easy Amos to be released. . . Robocop 3 is pirate-proof. . . New compatibilty add-on

IT'S SHOW TIME



The fifth International 16-Bit Computer Show will take place at the Wembley Exhibition Centre between the 14th and 16th of February, 1992. All aspects of the Amiga will be covered, including business, education, DTP and, of course, entertainment. If the attendance at the recent Earls Court Show is anything to go by tickets should be booked early and all enquiries can be directed towards Westminster Exhibitions Ltd, Surrey House, 34 Eden Street KT1 1ER. Tel: 081 549 3444. CU Amiga will have a stand at the show, so if you want to have a chat, shows us some of your work or discuss the magazine, please drop by and say hello.

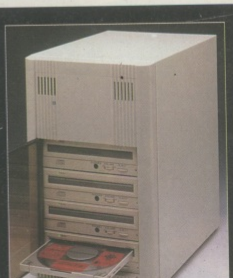


THREE FROM ONE

21st Century Entertainment have three interesting products in the pipe line. *Rubicon*, a fast action shoot 'em up, boasts some absorbing game-play and equally attractive graphics, whilst *Deliverance* follows on from the success of *Cybernoid* and *Stormlord*. Having undergone a complete redesign for the 16-bit version, 21st Century hope to provide an exciting mixture of *Barbarian*-style hack'n'slash and arcade-style 'monster' graphics. Console-style gaming coupled with platform action make this a promising project. Perhaps the most exciting is their proposed Pinball game. Although in its early stages, the finished product will incorporate all the features you'd expect to find on one of the more conventional arcade machines. There should also be a facility that will allow you to create your own table – now that would be something!

EAST MEETS WEST

Commodore have announced a link-up with two top Japanese companies in a bid to promote the emerging CDTV. The main players are Mitsui and Co and the Dai-Nippon Printing Company, one of Japan's largest industrial combines. The consortium will develop new titles, including top motion picture licenses. More than 100 CDTV titles are already on sale with more titles lined up for the new year.

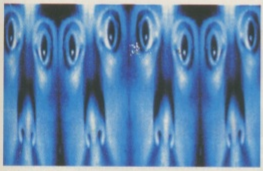


COMPATABILITY SOLVED!

Amiga 500 Plus readers fed up with incompatibility problems can rest easy. Centresoft have developed a 500 Plus ROM chip which makes all your lovely software that wouldn't load, loadable again, and all for only £29.99. Also available is the Addxtra, which includes a new 1 Meg upgrade which, when used in conjunction with half Meg Amigas, will increase memory to 2 Megs for only £59.99.

SIX OF THE BEST

The first games exclusively for the CDTV are now beginning to appear. On-Line have six titles about to hit the softshops including *Animals in Motion* (a study of Disneyesque-type images), *Chaos in Andromeda* (a fantasy RPG utilising tons of digitised animations sound effects and music set inside a blazing space carrier), *Hound of the Baskervilles* (pit your wits against the famous Sherlock Holmes.), *Psycho Killer* (an interactive TV experience, filmed with real actors and digitised), *Women in Motion* and *Town With No Name* (a cartoon Wild West adventure in five languages). Watch for them in the new year.





SHOW TALK

The World of Commodore Show, held at Earls Court in November, received a record attendance of 35,790 visitors. The show was reported as being the biggest computer show ever held in Britain with three times the floor space of last year's event. Plans are already afoot to make next year's show even bigger and better – and you can bet that CU will be there in force.

ADVANTAGE TENNIS Infrogrames have a tasty looking tennis game waiting for release. As you'd expect, the game is bursting with options and tournaments with the usual choice of venues and playing surfaces, but what makes this tennis game different is the use of what look like pipe-cleaner sprites. Don't be put off, though, because the animation that's gone into the players is phenomenal. If you can picture the character from *Prince of Persia* in a Fred Perry shirt and shorts you'd be pretty close. A whole arsenal of shots are available including a special through-the-legs shot. Be warned, however, as your player is sometimes prone to throw a tantrum or two.



CHAMPIONS There are sporting games everywhere this month and Krisalis have decided to add their own contribution to the Festive hamper. *Champions* is a three game compilation including the recent *Jahangir Khan World Championship Squash* game, the original *Manchester United* football game and *World Championship Boxing Manager* which received a CU Screen Star when first released. If you've been clever and have kept up to date with these releases in our magazine, you'll be able to make your own mind up, but as far as we're concerned the boxed set looks like being a winner.



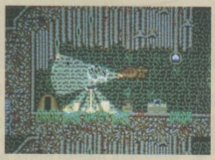
GREAT NAPOLEONIC BATTLES Strategy specialists, Impressions, are to release a game set during the Napoleonic Wars. Scenarios include the battle of Waterloo (which ended Napoleon's career), Quatre Bras/Ligny and Bonaparte's first great victory at Marengo. The title also includes a map editor, man editor and war editor so that the game can be customised to your own needs.



CAVITAS Nite Time Games are set to release their first game in January. *Cavitas* is a six-level shoot 'em up adventure set deep beneath a planet's surface. Stumbling across signs of an ancient civilisation, in the form of some abandoned mining machinery, it's up to you to explore the deep and cavernous underground caverns. Your team of hand-picked men encounter all kinds of beasts and can easily get lost in the maze-like passageways which require a subtle blend of puzzle- solving and brute force to circumvent.

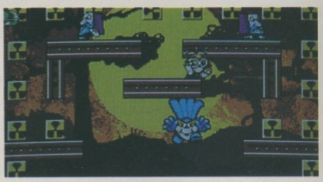


BLACK CRYPT More RPG escapades are on their way from Electronic Arts in the form of their new game, *Black Crypt*. The programmers behind the fantasy adventure want us to think of it as more of a dungeon simulator that'll give a player the impression of walking through a multi-level dungeon. All combat is animated on-screen as are all the spells and actions of your character. The usual assortment of tricks and traps are incorporated plus a novel twist that allows the monsters to learn certain spells and give you a taste of your own medicine. The visual aspects of the game are very detailed and this could be a contender for the RPG crown.



BUZZ

SEE MORE OF SEYMORE



Code Masters' very own super hero, Seymore, is back in another platform arcade adventure featuring huge cartoon graphics and animation. *Super Seymore Saves the Planet* is an environmental epic that wreaks of chemical misuse. Equipped with a host of super power-ups, Seymore must combat the toxic waste that ails the Earth and clear up the mess. The game promises to have loads of levels and be equally as much fun.

STRIDE ON



Programming team, Tiertex, have turned away from the *Strider* series to concentrate on Grandslam's new game, *Die Hard 2 - Die Harder*. The computer version of the hit film will be loosely based on the movie and include *Operation Wolf*-type shoot 'em up sections and arcade romps. Set over five levels, the action takes in snow mobile chases and dog-fights in the sky. Each level is separated by mind-bending sub-games and the finished game should be available as you read this.

LANGUAGE LINK-UP

Microdeal are already jumping onto the CD bandwagon with the release of a language-based learning program for French students starring everyone's favourite Gallic warrior, Asterix. Developed by Eurotalk, the program exploits the Amiga CDTV's amazing audio capabilities with over 30 hours of French study and more than 60 minutes of spoken French. There are 30 characters to meet in the cartoon environment and over 400 cartoon drawings in full colour. The system can also be linked up to *Voice Master*, enabling you to listen to one of 70 sentences selected from the story as well as the facility to record your spoken French.

OFFICIAL WORLD CUP CRICKET

The New Year will be a hive of activity for sports fans. Not only will the European Football Championships be gearing up, but the Cricket World Cup will be batting off, too. So what better time for Soundware International to put out their cricket game? Every aspect of willow beating is included and you can choose to represent one of nine world class sides. One of the hardest things to simulate in cricketing games is bowling, but in this version you can achieve anything from a Daisy Cutter to a Yorker. The game is for one or two players with any controversial judgements strictly controlled by the umpire, so dodgy appeals for LBW will fall on deaf ears. How the game will fair against Audiogenic's Graham Gooch license is anybody's guess, so watch out for reviews of both games next month.



SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

If anyone's having problems finding educational software, Rickitt Educational Media operate an efficient mail-order business specialising in just such a service. The programs are suitable for preschool learners as well as students studying for GCSE. All programs are a fun mixture of graphics and sound and specific packages conform to the National Curriculum Key Stages 1 and 2. Rickitt are offering all our readers their new catalogue for free if you contact them at: R.E.M. Ilton Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9HS Telephone (0460) 57152.

AMUST

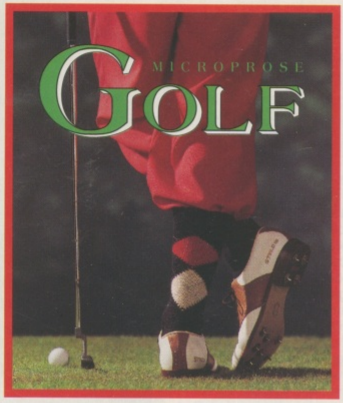
Following hard on the heels of top programming package, *Amos*, comes the beginner's version Easy Amos. The new product consists of 350 *Amos* commands being given by, of all things, a Martian professor. He provides useful hints and help, so *Amos* can be as easy and fun as possible. Older programers, who happen to be beginners too might not find the prof to their liking, but for those with absolutely no prior knowledge it might be worth bearing with the youthful approach.

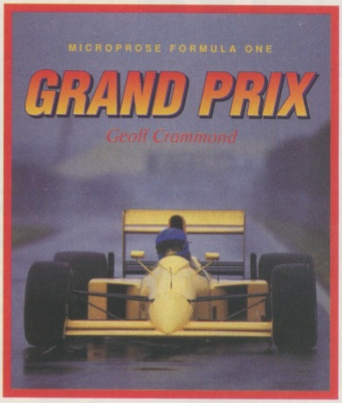




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BUZZ

NEW AMIGA

It's rumoured that Commodore are planning an extension to their Amiga range of computers in an attempt to tackle the console market. High on the list of possibilities is the A300, which would incorporate some very special new innards and a reduced keyboard. The A300 would probably retail at between £250 and £300 pounds and could spark a frantic new round of price cuts across the board. From Switzerland, there's also unconfirmed rumours of an A4000 and we'll bring you more news as and when Commodore release it.

SENSIBLE CHOICE

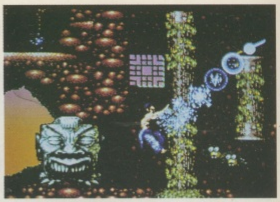
Mirrorsoft are continuing their productive relationship with Sensible Software, and have just announced that four more titles are currently in the works from the Cambridge-based development team. As well as a datadisk and sequel for the highly-acclaimed *Mega-lo-Mania*,



Sensible are currently working on a footy game and *Cannon Fodder*, a strategy war sim.

SOFT OPTION

Mev Dinc, still basking in the brilliant reviews for his *First Samurai* beat 'em up, is currently working on his next project for Mirrorsoft. It's rumoured to be a *Super Sprint*-style game offering more tracks and cars than Gremlin's ultra-slick *Super Cars*. More news as we get it.



PROJECT PROJET

Citizen have added another printer to their ever expanding range. The PROjet has three print speeds, with the fastest being 360 cps, and three resident fonts: Courier, Times Nordic and Letter Gothic. The machine is capable of landscape and portrait printing and features an easy-to-use control panel. The basic printer weighs in at £496, but with accessories the totasl cost could be over £700.

CHIPS AHOY!





Further to our story last month concerning Ocean's new pirate-beating software protection system, we can now reveal that the device, known to many as the 'dongle', will be shipped out with every version of *Robocop 3*. The key plugs directly into a joystick port and without it the game will not run. The 'dongle' is basically a PCB with a chip. Games can be copied as normal, but all copies will have to run with the extra device plugged into the back of the Amiga. However, this news is not only bad for pirates, but responsible gamers, too. Unless something else can be done to replace the used up 2nd port it could spell the end for simultaneous two-player games forever. Also, if this system is taken up by other software houses every single 'dongle' will have to be different for each new game released and someone, somewhere, will have to foot the bill. And we all know who that'll be, don't we punters! The companies have always maintained that the main reason for exorbitant prices has been due to the losses made from pirating. With piracy defeated, will prices now start to come down? We can only wait and see.

ENTER THE PD ZONE

As we were going to press, one of our eagle-eyed hacks noticed that we'd forgotten to give a number of addresses in our Demos section. Herewith the missing details: Diskovery PD, 108, The Avenue, Clayton, Bradford, BD14 6SJ; Rubber Radish, Bardfield, Bourne Lane, Hook Norton, Banbury, Oxon, OX15 5PF; Ground Zero, 4 Chandos Road, Redland, Bristol, BS6 6TE; CLS, Denbigh House, Denbigh Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK1 1YP. Good guys all. Sorry about that, folks.



CUBULUS

Allegations have been made that *Cubulus*, which was on our October issue coverdisk, is not a Public Domain product at all. Despite the fact that documentary evidence of copyright has not been provided, CU Amiga advises all PD houses to refrain from advertising, selling or renting the product until the matter is cleared.


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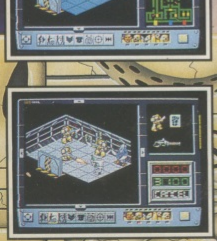
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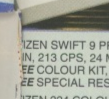
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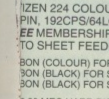


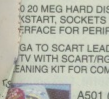


















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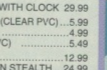
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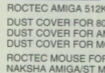
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Welcome to CU coverdisks 24 and 25, absolutely jam-packed with all kinds of hot utilities and fully-playable demos of the hottest games around.

24 25

COVERDISKS

twentyfour twentyfive

ON YOUR DISKS

As our disks reach their quarter-century we've got two contenders for the Christmas Number One spot – Ocean's *Space Gun* and Storm's *Big Run* as well as a fistful of useful utilities and brilliant programs. Simply insert the disk into your Amiga's drive and it will auto-boot to reveal a menu. Simply select which demo you want to play with the relevant 'F' key and you're away...

All the programs on these two disks will work on the new A500 Plus – Guaranteed!

DISK 25

SPACE GUN

Step into the combat boots of an intergalactic Marine on the mission of a lifetime. A signal has been received from a colonised base regarding an invasion by a race of hostile creatures, but since this was received nothing more has been heard. Thus, equipped with the latest in weaponry, you have been sent to investigate and destroy any hostile forces.

Our *Space Gun* demo features a complete level from Ocean's conversion of the Taito coin-op, and gives a taste of what to expect in the final version. The game is a variant on the *Operation Thunderbolt* theme, with the base's many corridors twisting and turning as you make your way through the base. The mouse is used to control the game, with the left button sending a stream of fire into the screen. The hostilities begin as soon as the Aliens start appearing, and these must be blown apart before they can reach you. Whenever an Alien gets too close, scratch or bite marks will appear on the screen, indicating that you have taken a hit and your energy will be depleted slightly as a result.

As the play area is scrolled, care must be taken not to hit any of the colonists who make a break for cover, as killing these unfortunates results in a premature ending to your mission. However, to make your unenviable bug hunt a little easier, packing crates often contain extra supplies for your gun, including fire-bombs, freeze grenades, and smart bombs, which are stored for later use. The left Amiga key is used to switch between the stored weapons, with the on-screen target changing to indicate which is currently in use. So, get ready for battle...



NB: Due to the complexity of the demo, leave the disk in the drive for further accessing.

BIG RUN

All the thrills of Jaleco's coin-op are brought to your Amiga, courtesy of Storm, and we've got an exclusive peek of what to expect. The *Big Run* coin-op features several levels of hot

race action, with the player guiding their car across a series of torturous routes in a desperate race against the clock. The scene is the Paris-Dakar Rally, with the player coming up against all kinds of adverse conditions as they speed towards each check point.

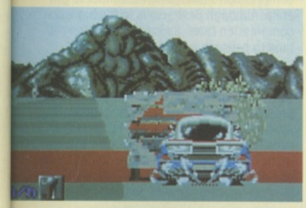
Our demo contains a section of the desert level, but the basic aim remains the same. The joystick is used to control the car, with the left and right controls steering the vehicle, with the fire button flooring the accelerator. As progress is made, the road will start to wind to the left and right, and leaving the lighter trail will slow your progress considerably. In addition, contact with any roadside objects should be avoided at all costs, as should the speed-reducing water which occasionally spills over into your path.

IF YOUR DISK WON'T LOAD?

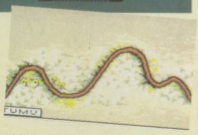
In the unlikely event of your CU disk not loading, remove all external cartridges and peripherals and try again. If it still won't load, pop the offending disk in an envelope and address it to: CU DISK RETURNS, PC Wise Merthyr Industrial Park, Pentreebach, Mid Glamorgan . CF48 4DR They will then test the disk and send a replacement as soon as possible. Ring the PC Wise Helpline for any urgent problems. It's open between 10:30 a nd 12:30 during weekdays and can be reached on: (0443) 693233 Whilst CU Amiga makes every effort to check cover disks for all known viruses, we can accept no responsibility for possible damage caused by viruses which may have escaped our attention.

24 25









Please note that, due to the size of the demo, we have been unable to squeeze any sound into the *Big Run* demo, but the final version will feature a storming soundtrack and suitably loud sound effects. Until then, though, you'll have to put some suitably racy music on in the background!

DISK 24

REAL THINGS DEMO

On our second packed disk, we've got a wonderful demo from RGB Studios' new *Real Things* collection.

By pressing F1 you can see a sample animation taken from the *Safari* collection. This demo has been saved in the Anim. format so you can easily load it into *D-Paint III* or *IV* and adapt it for your own use. At the top left of the animation the current frame number flashes past as each of the ten frames are played. If you want to incorporate the animation into your own creations, you'll first have to convert it into an anim.brush:

1. Load D-Paint and select Load from the Anim menu.
2. Insert the coverdisk and select the file called Zebra.anim, then click on OK to load the animation.
3. Once the animation has loaded, select Pick Up from the Anim Brush sub-menu.
4. Draw an outline around the Zebra starting from the top left hand corner and extending to the bottom right of the screen.

You've now defined the anim.brush, so save it for future use via the Save option of the Anim Brush menu.

To demonstrate how powerful these anim.brushes can be, we'll create a 100 frame animation in which the zebra appears to canter into the distance:

1. Start by deleting the zebra animation that you've just loaded, then go to the Anim menu and select Frames/Set #. When the requester appears type in 100 and press return.
2. Now load the anim.brush that you created earlier via the Anim/Anim Brush menu.
3. Position the anim.brush at the right-hand edge of the screen so that the zebra's snout is just touching the border, then press the left mouse button once to paint it onto the screen.
4. Select the Move requester from the Anim menu and set the X-Distance to 1000, and the Z-distance to -2000.
5. Ensure that Count is set to 100, the play direction is forward, and that the method is set to Draw (the ball with an arrow pointing to it).
6. Select Draw and the computer will automatically animate the zebra.

There are two ways to add a background picture: you can either load one before you set the number of frames or draw one on the spare screen (accessed by pressing 'J', then picking the picture up as a brush and defining it as a fill pattern).

Incidentally, you'll notice that the zebra only uses eight colours from a possible palette of sixteen. This allows you to use the other colours for your own use. To make things easier still, the colours used by the zebra are all adjacent to each other in the palette.

If you require more than sixteen colours, set the required number from the Project/Screen Format menu before you begin creating an animation. When you've

LOADING YOUR DISKS

Both disks boot automatically from the internal drive. Disk 20 starts with a tune and a pic, followed by the menu screen. When it's loaded, kill the tune by pressing the right mouse button then press the function key of your choice to load a program. To load Disk 21's programs just use the function keys.

COVERDISKS

twentyfour twentyfive



loaded the anim.brush select 'Project/Colours/From Brush' and the brush colours will be combined with your new palette.

As you can see, *Real Things* are incredibly versatile, and can help create impressive wild life animations. The zebra included here is just one of eleven different animals lovingly reproduced across eighteen animations on the Safari disks. Read the full review of *Real Things Safari* and *Sea Life* on page 163 for further details.

SCREEN OF THE MONTH

This month's winner hails from Sweden. Mikael Raim's superb 32-colour lo-res picture is appropriately titled, 'Dawn of the Gargoyle'. It's just one of several excellent illustrations Mikael sent us and for his efforts a one-year subscription is winging its way to him.

TUNE OF THE MONTH

Nico Arianoutsos of Spain has come up with a truly inspirational tune. His seven minute masterpiece demonstrates that although sampled beats can enhance the sound of a tune, it's perfectly possible to create professional drum and melody tracks using single instruments. One of the most creative tunes we've heard in a while. Well done, Nico.

TUNING INTO SUCCESS

For those of you thinking about entering a copmposition for out Tune of the Month spot, here are some simple guidelines to help increase your chances of winning:

1. Try to keep tunes below 100k in size.

2. Only tunes submitted as modules will be considered.

3. If you're going to use an obscure music package, please include the module player as well as your tune.

4. Don't try putting clever loaders on your disks. I load everything into a single module player when judging the tunes, and non-Dos disks get ignored straight away.

5. Let's have some entries which aren't house or acid music. What about classical or good ol' Rock 'n' Roll?

6. Don't rename all of your instruments so that they spell out messages or addresses etc. I like to know what you're working with so that I can assess how well you've done.

Also, please write your name and address in capitals on each disk. You'd be surprised at how many people forget to do such a simple thing.

POWERPACKER 2.3B

When disk space is tight, *Powerpacker* helps squeeze on those few extra bytes of information. It performs special compression algorithms on any files, and can reduce their size by up to 50%. There are full documents on the disk, but here's a few tips to get you started:

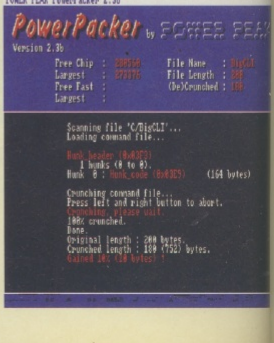
Powerpacker is capable of compressing two types of file: executable/ runnable programs and data files. Executable programs are those which load by simply typing their name from CLI, and includes things such as most C directory commands, *D-Paint* etc. Data files are simply lists of binary data such as *D-Paint* screens, word processor saves etc.

Before you can compress a file you must tell *Powerpacker* which type you're trying to crunch. This is done via the Prefs menu, where you can specify Command or Data File.

Also in the Prefs menu is the Efficiency option where you can specify how much compression *Powerpacker* attempts to generate. Although Best results in the highest compression rates, it also takes the longest time to perform.

For most purposes, this is all you'll need to know. Just load a file and it will automatically be compressed. When it's finished processing a file, *Powerpacker* states how much compression it's achieved. If you're satisfied, you can save the file, which automatically has the characters .pp added to the end of the file name.

Powerpacker can also be used for decompressing files which have already been processed previously. Many of the menu options will be of little interest to casual users, but they are fully explained in the documents which can be accessed via the Cover disk docs menu (F9).





LONGSAMPLE

This easy to use program enables the user to create an auto-booting disk, complete with two-colour intro picture, which plays consecutive samples straight from disk. Furthermore, it plays them so quickly after each other, that they can appear to be one continuous tune if they're sampled carefully enough.

All you need is a selection of samples, a blank, formatted disk and a two-colour intro screen (lo-res). Once *Longsample* has loaded, select 'Write Boot/Own Boot' from the Disk menu. At the file-name prompt type LSBoot and press return. After a few moments the boot will have loaded and you'll be prompted to insert your blank disk. If you've correctly followed the on-screen prompts, the boot will be installed on your disk.

Select 'Write Graphics' from the Disk menu. This will write the picture to your sample disk.

All that remains is to add the samples themselves, which is done by selecting 'Write Samples' from the Disk menu. This time you'll be prompted to enter the name of a sample, which will be loaded into memory. The computer will continue to request sample names until it has enough to write to the disk. This may take some time so be prepared! Once it has enough samples, it'll request your demo disk to write the samples onto. If there's still space left on the disk, it may return to the sample loading stage, where you'll be prompted for yet more sample names until the disk is full.

Once all of the samples are on the disk, it's ready. Just reset your Amiga, insert the disk and it should play all of the samples for you. Incidentally, *Longsample* can only handle samples which are tuned to middle C, or have a period of 428. Read the documentation for more details.

CRYPTATOR

If you have ambitions to be a spy, or simply have data which you need to keep from prying eyes, *Cryptator's* for you. It encrypts any file you care to give it, in such a way that it can only be decoded using the password that you define.

It's simplicity itself to use: type C then Return to code a file. At the prompts enter the name of the file to encrypt, the code word to use, and the name that you want the file saved under. *Cryptator* will do the rest. To decode a file, you follow exactly the same procedure. *Cryptator* automatically detects if a file is encrypted or not.

RETCHA-SKETCH

This just-for-fun program takes you back to the days when loon pants were all the rage, you could still win a Gonk at the fair and everyone owned an Etch-a-sketch board.

This tribute to those heady bygone days faithfully reproduces the Etch-a-sketch machine which was so popular. Simply press fire to begin, then, using the joystick, draw to your heart's content. It may seem primitive, but it's ideal for younger children and, don't forget, you're reliving history! Incidentally, once the screen becomes too messy, pressing fire will clean it up for you. You don't have to shake the monitor!

KEYMAP ED

Some time ago a utility called *Setkey* was released which allowed the user to define their own keymaps for use in menus or programs. Unfortunately, the program had one major bug which defeated a lot of users. *Keymap* is an updated program which performs the same function, minus the bugs!

As you load up, a requester appears which offers the user the opportunity to load a keymap. If you select GB, you'll have the opportunity to see the keymap used for the Coverdisk menu. Once it's loaded, you'll be presented with a picture representing the keyboard. If you're using a European Amiga, you should immediately set the keyboard to reflect this via the Layout menu.

By clicking on the F1 key on the screen, a box appears showing the current definitions for that key. Under the section headed 'Alone' you'll see the following: cls\rppanim\x20zebra.anim\r This is the command sequence used to load and animate the *Real Things* Zebra. If you were to type the same command from CLI it would look like this: CLS <return> ppanim Zebra.anim <return>

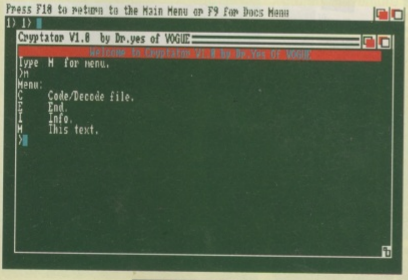
Two special character sequences are used in the key definition; \r which is equivalent to pressing return, and \x20 which is equivilent to pressing space.

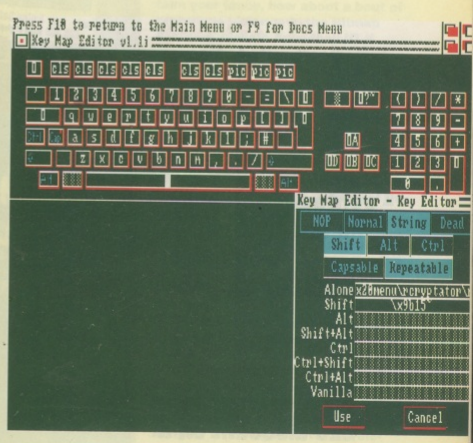
Once a keymap is defined, it should be saved in the Devs/Keymaps directory from where it can be activated with the command setmap xxx. (xxx is the name given to the keymap). There are full documents on the disk, and you're advised to read them before you attempt to create too many keymaps.

FONTS

The final tools on the disk are twelve superb fonts which can be used with any graphics package.

They're located in the Fonts directory, and can be accessed directly with *D-Paint III* and *IV*. If your art package doesn't allow you to load additional fonts, simply go into CLI before you load your package and type Assign Fonts: CU241:Fonts. When you proceed to load the package, it should automatically request the CU coverdisk for all of its fonts.





With the *Cryptator* you can encode messages so that only you can read them! Once encrypted, messages can only be decoded using the password that you've defined.



YOU'VE SO

SO YOU

Last month's scratchcard promotion was our most popular competition ever, so here, for the benefit of our overseas readers and anyone patient enough to contain their excitement for a month, are the details of what was on the end of our immensely popular phone lines.

071 251 6222 – congratulations, you've just won a CDTV!

0839 500 850 – contacting this line means that you've won one of 200 free games!

0839 500 851 or 0839 500 852 – you've won up to a £20 discount on a Mirrorsoft game!

CDTV WINNERS

Congratulations! You've just won a fabulous CDTV! You can make yourself the envy of all your friends simply by filling in the correct part of the scrtatchcard and then posting it off to: The Editor, CU Amiga, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. Please note that we need your scratchcard in our hands as proof that you've won – so don't forget to send it via recorded delivery.

MASSIVE DISCOUNTS

0839 500851
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By the way, if you've forgotten what the games on offer were, here's a recap:

FALCON
(full-price £29.99, £9.99 to readers)
Take to the skies with this award-winning flight sim.

DUNGEON MASTER
(full-price £29.99, £9.99 to readers)
The original, the classic, the all-time greatest RPG. If you haven't played this game, you haven't lived!

IT CAME FROM THE DESERT
(full-price £29.99, £9.99 to readers)
Cinemaware's B-movie inspired arcade adventure – highly original and a deserved winner its CU Amiga Superstar.



SCRATCHED, U-VE WON...



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Full astern for this strategically sophisticated tale of World War Two maritime convoys.

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The violent, graphically stunning future-sport game from the Bitmap Brothers.

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Also from the Bitmap stable, there's hours and hours of puzzles and intrigue in this lavish, isometric adventure.

BACK TO THE FUTURE 3
(full-price £25.99, £9.99 to readers)
The best of the *Back To* licences which closely follows the film's plot!

DOUBLE DOUBLE BILL
(full-price £35.99, £9.99 to readers).
The fabulous quartet: *Wings, Lords Of The Rising Sun, TV Sports Football* and *TV Sports Basketball*. Marvellous games at a marvellous price.

PREDATOR 2
(full-price £25.99, £9.99 to readers)
It's all systems go in down-town LA, as the hero meets the state-of-the-art in killing machines.

BRAT
(full-price £25.99, £4.99 to readers)
He's bold, he's brash, he's baaad. . . but take command of the baby boy as he wreaks havoc and guzzles his way round this amusing romp.

CHAMPION OF THE RAJ
(full-price £25.99, £4.99 to readers)
Carry on up the Khyber with this lush, graphic adventure with a distinct eastern flavour.

All you have to do to claim your massive discount is select one or more of the games from the above list, and simply send your order along with a cheque or postal order for the correct total made payable to Mirrorsoft to their usual address at: Mirrorsoft Scratchcard Discount Offer, Mirrorsoft, Irwin House, 118 Southwark Street, London, SE1 0SW. You can order as many of the listed games as you wish, but please make sure that you send your scratchcard – complete with your name and address – along with your cheque as proof of entry. Also, please don't send cash as we cannot be accountable for any lost in the post.

200 FREE GAMES – 0839 50085

Congratulations! You're the lucky winner of one of two hundred free Mirrorsoft games. Simply by ringing this number, a free game is yours, and here's how to get it. Put your name and address on the back of your scratchcard, along with the name of your chosen freebie, and send it to: Mirrorsoft Scratchcard Discount Offer, Mirrorsoft, Irwin House, 118 Southwark Street, London, SE1 0SW. However, before you can do that, here's the games that are awaiting you. First of all, there's the brilliant *Double Double Bill* compilation, featuring Cinemaware's greats, including *TV Sports Football, Lords Of The Rising Sun, Wings*, and *TV Sports Basketball* – just the thing for those long winter nights! If that doesn't take your fancy, how about a bout of gratuitous violence in the Bitmap Brothers' classic *Speedball II*? If you're a bargain fan, then the final two offers will suit you down to the ground. Hot from the Mirror Image collection, you can choose TWO games rather than one, and your selections can be either the pairing of the two space operas *Federation Of Free Traders* and *Starglider II*, or the duo of the original *Speedball* and *TV Sports Football*.



So, once you've taken your pick from that little lot, just jot your choice onto the scratchcard and send it to the aforementioned Mirrorsoft address. Then camp out by your letter box and await the arrival of your free game courtesy of Mirrorsoft and CU Amiga – THE magazine for the discerning Amiga user.

BRIGHTE



It's not often that CU Amiga gives its dearly beloved pages to guest writers – but what better way to see in the New Year, and the sale of 80, 000 new Amigas than an address by Commodore MD, Steve Franklin?

"Christmas may well be over for another year, but there is one more celebration left before the new year takes hold. One more celebration, that is, for Amiga owners as their numbers pass the one million mark in the UK, and 1992 is set to be a magical year for the Amiga. Most of this magic will stem from hard work which went into last year, which saw major landmarks established: the launch of the Amiga CD-TV, the new Amiga 500P, and the Amiga's unquestioned dominance of the home computer market.

The most tangible proof of this dominance lies with the Christmas poll of fifty top independent computer retailers. When asked what they thought would be the biggest selling computer this Christmas, an astonishing 96% replied in favour of the Amiga - the remaining 4% plumped for the C64. All this success means more choice for Amiga owners, more software, peripherals, sales outlets, and innovation. Already established as the first choice for publishers, Amiga titles will continue to be brought to market first, benefiting from development on and for the Amiga. These developments will then be passed on - as witnessed by the introduction of the A500P in October last year. As the first major revision of the Operating System for three years, the speculation over incompatible software has proved totally unfounded.

All major software publishers endorse the new format, and have been developing software for the new machine for the past 18 months. In fact, the only people to have been 'less than impressed' with the new Amiga were those with stocks of delisted and old budget games on their hands. No compatibility problems exist with either current or future releases; indeed virtually all full-price software available now is fully supported - but if you have any doubts then check with your dealer first. The benefits of the new OS have been well-documented in magazines such as CU Amiga. In essence, the key benefits are in better display resolution and the improved productivity users can expect.

The reasons these issues are important lies in the way the Amiga is now used. Professionally, Amigas are pioneering the market for multimedia, and are becoming accepted as a high quality workstation, setting the standards for professional music and video production for some years to come. Clearly, the Amiga is not a toy. We're proud that it is universally heralded as the best games computer - but that's only where the story starts. Some PC analysts have long dismissed the Amiga - but now with Workbench 2.0, the Amiga stands favourably on its own against any other rival PC. Similarly, the strength of the Amiga in the home has a major role to play in education. Schools and colleges in Britain and around the world appreciate that the Amiga is the computer that is most commonly used in homes, and is the computer pupils and students most want to own.. In fact, the analysts who once

ER BY FAR



dismissed the Amiga now recognise Commodore's contribution in providing the most effective multimedia platform available today. As the multimedia market takes shape it is clear that the Amiga will have a leading role to play. No other computer matches its capabilities – video, sound, graphics, photography, and database management are all placed at the fingertips of the user.

In developing applications and in using multimedia, the Amiga is at the forefront – position which was underlined when the CD-TV was launched to a packed and expectant audience in spring. Commodore have taken on the giants of electronics and won the battle to develop the world's first interactive multimedia player. Even for a company like Commodore, the CD-TV is radically new and exciting. Its potential exceeds any of our past innovations. With the PET in 1975, Commodore invented the PC, the VIC20 was the first colour home computer, and the C64 remains the world's most popular computer. The CD-TV, though, is something rather different.

It is different because it can touch and change all our lives - whenever and whatever you do. Learning becomes fun and entertainment takes on a new dimension - which is exactly what the Amiga first promised in 1985 when it was launched by Andy Warhol and Blondie's Debbie Harry. The CD-TV removes the limitations of the computer: a single CD offers the equivalent of over 700 floppy disks – enough information to hold the entire UK telephone directory. Imagine what the world's leading software developers are creating now the barrier of floppy disks has gone.

All this is with a player that lives quite comfortably under the television, and has a remote control with fewer buttons than the average TV set. What's more, this media is also to be available for all Amiga 500 owners with the A690 CD-ROM drive. Not only does the A690 transform the Amiga into the ultimate games platform, but it also transforms the way in which the technology can be used. Additionally, as a standard CD player, the CD-TV and the A690 not only play hifi quality music, but add graphics and other value. As record companies realise the medium can do both CD and G+CD, MIDI will become commonplace, and I believe that the CD-TV will become the musician's favourite - techniques, such as sampling will become much easier and MIDI In and Out lends itself to that marvellously.

This newly-launched system offers an amazing option for users to actually remove drums, guitars or keyboards from records so you can 'play along with the band'. This, and this and the ability to play games with CD-quality sound is an incredible achievement. With other areas, such as the Guinness Book Of Records and Trivial Pursuit greatly expanded for the CD medium, followed by another 200 titles - perhaps now you can see why 1992 will be a magical year for the Amiga.

Many thanks to Steve for his personal opinions. Any comments should be posted to our letters page, Backchat. We will happily forward mail on to Commodore UK.





THE BEST YEAR OF OUR LIVES

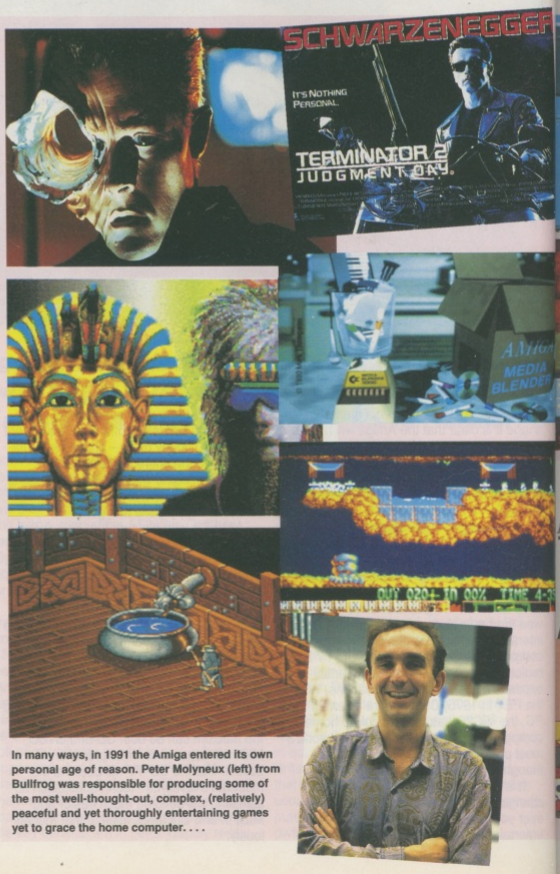
1991 promised to be a great year. Twenty-four-bit colour, god-sims such as Mega-lo-Mania. . . it sometimes seemed we were spoiled rotten – but what was hot and what – indeed – was rot?

ALL ABOARD! Tottenham won the F.A. Cup, Maggie Thatcher was booted out of number 10, Terry Waite was released after five years captivity and Ocean almost got *Epic* in the shops! Almost. All in all, things have never been better on the Amiga front with a consistent run of top class games and utilities filtering through every month. Anyone who saw last month's CU Amiga can testify to that as no less than 12 awards were given for excellence. But as we all know opinions vary and what's one mans meat is another man's suicidal software from hell. There are some things, however, that you just can't argue about...

IN-SPEC-TION If there's one thing that can be said for the Amiga in 1990, it's that it came into its own. After dithering with the ST in the mid-price bracket, it shook off Atari's competition by making the break everyone wanted it to do. By making 1Mb of memory a standard, Commodore pleased virtually everyone who has anything to do with the machines. Game and hardware manufacturers had more to play with, and as a result the machine moved up from its superior 16-bit position to the industry standard, with its technical and software support expanding across a wider range. As a result, the serious software scene has expanded ten-fold,with a number of high quality and sophisticated packages now available for virtually any application.

ABOUT TIME TOO At long last, seriously hot coders are writing some really creative stuff for the machine. The two worlds of music and graphics have been blessed with software that would convert the most dedicated IBM groupie over to the Amiga. The expanding Amiga user base has been the major catalyst for all this development, but technological advances have also brought the cost of it all down. A few years back even basic Genlocks would have cost about three times as much as they are now. In fact its in the area of Video and 'True-Colour' graphics that some of the most impressive changes have occurred. All this is good news for the Amiga's entry and position in the professional broadcast and video world. Amigas equipped with 24-bit colour cards are being used by TV stations in every country of the world, especially in the Third World and Middle East where their cost effectivness have fended off the competition from the Apple Mac and IBM video solutions.

ON TV On the domestic side, we have all seen Catch Phrase and the Chart Show's innovative use of real-time Amiga graphics. Also, the



In many ways, in 1991 the Amiga entered its own personal age of reason. Peter Molyneux (left) from Bullfrog was responsible for producing some of the most well-thought-out, complex, (relatively) peaceful and yet thoroughly entertaining games yet to grace the home computer. . . .

last year or so has seen a dramatic improvement in the music scene. The software has simply got better (especially within the busy Public Domain network) and will ensure that the Amiga will prove itself as the number one gadget for the musician, who hitherto may have used an ST. For anybody wishing to really get involved with some major stuff in the creative area of computing, the Amiga has never before offered such viability. Only a while back, an impressive graphical demonstration might have been a half meg Amiga and a copy of Jeff Minters *Trip A Tron* pumping out coloured pixels. Today, you can map a portrait of your Auntie Glenys on to an animated sphere whilst bouncing it around the screen over moving scenery composed of a million-and-one fractal polygons!

So you see, if you are new to all this Amiga stuff, then you haven't missed out. But you must be ready for the ride of a lifetime.





PASS THE PORT-OVER...

On the whole, 1991 was quite a good year for Amiga game players, too, and the plague of games copied directly from the inferior Atari ST that made up the bulk of 1990's releases have now pretty much dried up, paving the way for games such as *Heimdall* and *Z-Out* which are written on the Amiga to make the most of the machine's many capabilities. However, there still seems to be a tendency to concentrate on the look of the game rather than the playability, and after a few breaks with this tradition in the shape of *M.U.D.S*, *Car-Vup* and *Rodland*, we seem to have got stuck in a fresh rut of film and coin-op licences again. Let's just hope that potentially hot licences as *The Addams Family* and *Batman II* aren't wasted. One of the most exciting prospects of the last year, though, was the release and announcement of several old classics from dead and buried computers making their Amiga debut. *Head Over Heels* was the perfect example of this, and there are still dozens of games resting in Ocean's, U.S. Gold's and assorted other software houses' back catalogues that are just ripe for plundering.

SIM CITY

One of the most memorable games was *Speedball II* which, in our book, is the best thing to hail from development team, The Bitmaps Brothers' stable. It took the the first *Speedball* and expanded it in every conceivable area, yet didn't lose an ounce of its playability - in fact, it even expanded upon that, too. Next up, is another sports affair, too, with Archer Maclean's brilliant *Jimmy White's Snooker*. This is just so playable it's incredible. Shoot 'em up fans were kept happy, too,with three superb blasters, namely *SWIV*, *Turrican II* and *Z-Out*. The vertically-scrolling *SWIV* was the unofficial sequel to *Silkworm* and used the same load-as-you-go system for uninterrupted blasting. *Z-Out* was the super-fast follow-up to Rainbow Arts' *X-Out* and the German company also managed to improve the original *Turrican* for more alien-slaying mayhem. Originality, was another innovation we weren't used to seeing, but Psygnosis' *Lemmings* proved to be a worldwide hit combining cute graphics, an easy-to-use control system, and enough addictivity to keep even the most avid puzzle and strategy fans happy.

In all, '91 was quite a good year for games, even if we'd like to have seen just a few more exceptional examples. Nevertheless, the sheer number of Screenstars we carry each month is surely a good sign, even if it's been difficult to spot the new *Rainbow Island* or even *Kick Off 2*? Still, here's to your health, and there's always *Kick Off 3* to look forward to. And as for the so-called 'thinking games', such as *Populous 2* and *Eye of the Beholder*, that particular genre has had an amazing past year. . . .

BUT SERIOUSLY...

TECH ED, MAT BROOMFIELD REVIEWS HIS FAVOURITE PRODUCTS OF THE LAST YEAR.

Colorburst: This graphics board finally brings true 24-bit graphics within the reach of non-millionaires! Costing £599, it's half the price of its nearest rivals. It's just a pity the software isn't better.

Octamed 2.0: A dream come true, at a mere tenner, *Octamed* is one of my all-time favourite pieces of software. Not only does it give the music programmer unparalleled power, it even works with MIDI.

Professional Page 2.0/2.1: A really powerful and easy to to use DTP package which lets anyone create professional results at home. Fun to use, and especially recommended.

Vista Pro: The most impressive fractal landscape program available, *Vista Pro* allows the importing of real digital elevation maps so that genuine landscapes can be modelled. The inclusion of automated animation and 24-bit colour support keeps this package head and shoulders above the rest.

A500P: Despite the compatibility furore, the A500P is the easiest way of getting a machine that runs Kickstart and Workbench 2.0. Although of little interest to gamers, the new interface enhances every other operation.

The Miracle: This great-sounding keyboard allows even the absolute novice to learn to play like a professional. With it's artificial intelligence, it can adapt the lessons to your own proficiency level. It's built-in MIDI capability means that it can be used as a professional instrument between lessons.

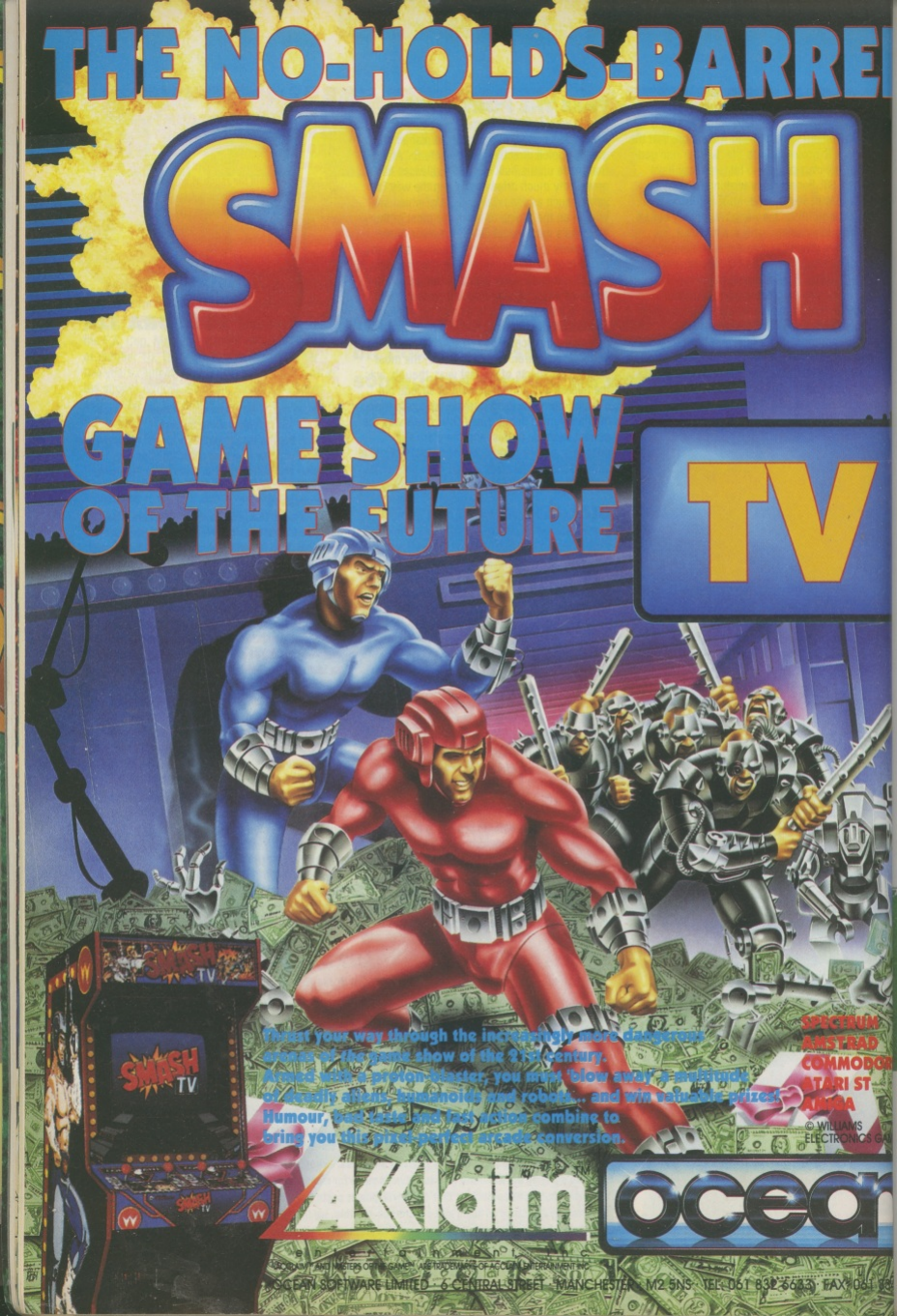
GVP Series 2 HD8 Hard Drive: Even amidst the multitude of Hard Drives released this year, the Series 2 stands well above the rest. Easy to use and install, it allows up to 8Mb of extra RAM to be added and runs so fast you'll expect to hear a sonic boom!

DPaint IV: Electronic Arts continued the *DPaint* saga with this HAM-supporting addition. As well as supporting HAM, though, it also gave the user a multitude of new fill types, a more flexible palette, and numerous new manipulation tools. Quite simply the ultimate in art packages.

WHO'S A CLEVER BOY, THEN?

The last twelve months has seen massive advances in the realms of the 'thinking man's' game. With *Eye Of The Beholder*, *Knightmare* and *Populous II* attaining classic status almost immediately, why have these games suddenly taken off? 'Basically, it's because of their flexibility,' offers Bullfrog's head honcho, Peter Molyneux. 'Whereas in a shoot 'em up the player can only control one set of actions then decide whether they can make it to the next stage, in a game like *Utopia* or *Mega-Lo-Mania*, the game can exist without the player, offering a number of other play alternatives. This expanded game task can then offer the player challenges they may not expect,' he continues, 'and we used this concept as much as possible in *Populous II*. For instance, throughout *Populous II* the player can win using a number of ideas, whether they want to destroy their way to victory, or attain it relatively peacefully. It's almost certainly the open endings the game leaves that make them a success.'

Another argument is that these games offer far better value for the punter's money than coin-op licences or the latest game-of-the-film. 'Yes,' agrees Molyneux, 'when we put a game together, we want the person who's paying out the thirty quid to get good value for money. Personally, I think that games are bloody expensive but I can appreciate that the development costs behind each release can bump up the price. However, by cramming as much into our stuff as possible, we like to think that we make ours a worthy buy. It certainly beats adding another puzzle section just to boost the number of levels in it.'


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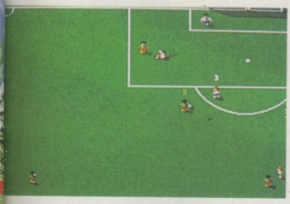
1992 THE FUTURE NOW

The best is yet to come, however, and in 1992 we can continue to expect the very best in games, graphics, video, sound and peripherals. CU dusts down its crystal ball and makes a few predictions as to next year's big events. . .

SENSIBLE SOCCER - Mirrorsoft.

With *Wizkid* almost out the door, Sensible Software are set to return to the genre that they revolutionised back in 1988. After proving their diversity with the likes of *3D Tennis* for Palace and Mirrorsoft's *Mega-Lo-Mania*, Jon Hare and Chris Yates are now working on a Footy game which they hope will punt Anco's *Kick Off* into orbit.

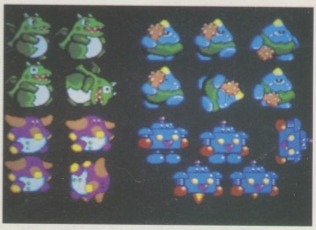
The game uses the favoured overhead view, with the players kept deliberately tiny to optimise more animation frames for less memory. In addition, Jon and Chris have created an 'intelligent' control method, where players behave and shoot depending on their proximity to the ball. Also, a 'form' option has been included where a player's attributes are changed depending on how well they fared in past games. With other ideas, such as a transfer market still to be added, it'll be a while before Sensi complete the game for Mirrorsoft, but expect it within the first quarter of next year.



PARASOL STARS - OCEAN.

Converted from the PC Engine original, *Parasol Stars* sees the welcome return of those dungaree-clad heroes, Bub and Bob fresh from their adventures in *Bubble Bobble* and *Rainbow Islands*.

The game draws its title from the pairs' unusual weaponry. Whereas Rainbow Islands saw them throwing Rainbows all over the show, in *Parasol Stars* they are armed with tiny parasol umbrellas with which they can gather objects or nasties and lob them across the screen. For instance, by collecting five or more raindrops on their 'brollies', Bub or Bob will be armed with a massive drip which, when released, will kill everything in its path. The game is being devel-



THE PC THREAT

MAT BROOMFIELD DEBATES THE EVER-PRESENT RIVALRY BETWEEN THE AMIGA AND THE MANY PCS ON THE MARKET.

With the ST slowly breathing its last, the only real rival to the Amiga in 1992 is the ever-growing PC range. There are also several nasty stories of people perhaps abandoning the Amiga over the next year or so in favour of the PC - so is there anything to worry about? In all fairness, no. Whilst the PC is a very capable machine, before it can rival the Amiga in terms of graphical prowess and speed, it must be expanded by purchasing the relevant boards. Even then, the PCs can only keep up with the Amiga rather than surpass it. The main reason for the PC series' success is that IBM were quite simply there first. From this early beginnings, they went on to build up their present massive user-base which makes the Amiga's world-wide user-base of 3 million look a bit wee. However, since the Amiga only really started taking off last year, that's not as small as it may seem.

When you buy an Amiga, everything you need to get started is there. The sound and graphic boards are there, the processor is fast enough to handle the most troublesome of data, none of which can be said of the PC - not if you intend to stay in the same price range, that is. In addition, the Amiga's software support is rapidly becoming more adaptable and varied than the PC counterparts, with Commodore's machine moving into the business market with ease. Software also pushes the Amiga's hardware further than ever, with the new *Superjam* package a perfect example. This little package allows the user to use the Amiga's four channel sound with as many samples as their memory can handle - try doing that on the PC!



Basically, there is nothing to be worried about. Yes, both machines will be around in five years. But guess which one will have the most exciting software and hardware developments. I'll give you a clue: it begins with the letter 'A'...

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1992 THE FUTURE NOW

oped by Ocean's in-house team, and is currently over 60% complete, so expect further news within the next couple of issues.

BOB - EA/BULLFROG.

Fresh from the success of *Populous II*, Bullfrog are currently working on another isometric affair called *Bob*. However, for those of you expecting another *Powermonger* or *Populous*, then you're in for a shock. Once again, Bullfrog are giving the player control over events within the game, but this time the emphasis is on the worlds of big business.

As one of a series of manufacturers of mind-co-ordinating silicon chips, you must ensure that you are the fastest-growing company, with continual new developments and ever-growing mar-



kets. There are two ways to do this: you can run your business properly, by head-hunting and developing; or you can play dirty and kidnap people's families to make them work for you, or send specially-bred mercenaries to steal the all-important blueprints. In all, Bob contains 115 countries, within which there are 32 towns, creating a massive play area in the process. There's still a lot to do before its hopeful Summer release, but *Bob* looks like another winner for Bullfrog and EA.

PAPERBOY II - MINDSCAPE.

Atari's delivery boy won a legion of fans in his arcade debut and subsequent conversions, and *Paperboy II* takes the basic idea one step further. Whereas the first game limited our hero to a one-way scrolling play area, the sequel allows the player to choose one of three routes and make his deliveries along that.

Development is primarily on the Famicon at the moment, but the Amiga version is already looking up to the standard of the console version. Unlike the first game, newspaper subscribers now line both sides of the street, with the player tossing the papers either way. Failure to keep a set number of clients prematurely ends the game, as does the aforementioned loss of life, but if a round is pulled off then a bonus section awaits you. Keep this up for a week, and you'll be suitably rewarded. Expect a review of this much-awaited sequel some time in February.



FUTURE TENSE...

MAT BROOMFIELD LOOKS FORWARD TO AN EXCITING NEW YEAR...

If one thing is almost certain this year, it's that Amiga-related prices are set to take a tumble. With Commodore currently working on more compact circuit boards, the price for further expansion boards and accelerator boards should fall as well, making the Amiga even better value for money. In addition, by the end of the year, I'd expect the CD-TV unit to be reduced to the £399 mark, especially with the imminent release of Commodore's dedicated CD-ROM drive. Other drives should start to appear soon, too, making them more affordable for the home user, and if the likes of Ocean and U.S. Gold aren't already working on titles (rumour has it that U.S. G are currently thinking of releasing Kev Bulmer's *Legend Of Valour* on the CD format) then by the end of next year they almost certainly will be. After all, this could be the end of piracy as we know it if CD takes off.

With Mindscape's *Miracle* keyboard paving the way, the Amiga music scene is about to take off in a big, big way. Up until now, the ST's *T-Base* has reigned supreme, but two Amiga packages - Dr T's *KCS* and *XOR* - are set to knock the spots off this and any other competitors. Similarly, although I doubt that *DPaint IV* will be surpassed I have a feeling that several HAM-specialist graphics packages may hit the market, offering faster use of this multi-colour mode. Also, it's about time an affordable Amiga Video Editing package hit the streets, but the aforementioned price reductions should speed this along. Let's hope so.



As far as the computer itself goes, there's plenty of speculation regarding an A4000 or a console-based Amiga, but there's nothing concrete. If Commodore do produce an A4000 it will be aimed at the higher end of the market at the high-end PC-owning fringe perhaps. The console on the other hand is a quite exciting idea, but only if Commodore improve on the Amiga's hardware to make a machine that can run Amiga games but take even more advanced cartridges - another way to end to piracy. If Commodore do this, then they should be able to take on the likes of the Famicom or the Megadrive, both of which have specialist sprite enlarging and scrolling chips. PC fanatics are predicting that the introduction of consoles will consign the Amiga to an education-only role. The answer to them is obvious: at the end of '92 you will still have in the Amiga the best multimedia tool, the best music, tool, the best machine for programming and graphics, and, most certainly, the best machine for games.

'ALL IN ALL, ONE HELL OF AN ACHIEVEMENT...'

With the Amiga gaining popularity all the time, CU has been there every step of the way. What's more, our growth has paralleled that of the Amiga, too...

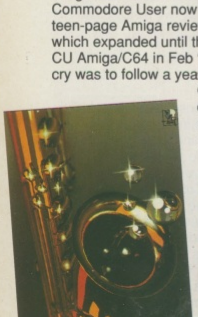
Believe it or not, CU is actually reaching its 12th year in existence. It started life as the pamphlet-like VIC Computing in January 1981. Covering Commodore's 3.5K baby, the magazine consisted of reviews, news and type-in listings for programs that rarely worked properly. Come 1983, the VIC was dead on its feet, so Commodore User was born to expand the magazine's coverage to include the new C64 and its games. However, something had to go and on dropping the VIC20 coverage, there was a public outcry by doomed VIC owners.

In 1984, EMAP took over publication of the mag, and with its only rival, Newsfield's ZZap! 64 going from strength to strength, the first Amiga coverage was seen in the September 1985 issue. However, by October 1987, things had started to change, and Commodore User now sporting a sixteen-page Amiga reviews supplement which expanded until the mag became CU Amiga/C64 in Feb '88, but more outcry was to follow a year later when the C64 half was dropped and the magazine became the CU Amiga we know today. With another revamp following in October 1990, it wasn't until June last year that we made the break and became the 'complete' guide to the Amiga, with our expanded pages including reviews of serious products, as well as the definitive games coverage.

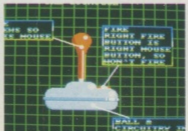
Since then, and without blowing our own trumpet too hard, we've been the first to cover the likes of DPaint IV, the CD-TV, and the possibility of an Amiga cartridge (which may see the light in the mythical A300 console system), and by buying the magazine you have helped our sales expand so greatly that we even topped Media Week's (a trade magazine covering publishing houses) top twenty for year-on-year growth - with CU's 88% growth beating the likes of The Clothes Show Magazine and Smash Hit's sister publication, Big. And who said that computers were a flash in the pan? In addition, we are now aiming to aid the Amiga's development with ideas, such as our 'Design An Add-On' feature, and we are often asked to give early impressions of forthcoming games for any faults they may have. Proving that, as we promised, CU Amiga is at the forefront of the Amiga world.



CU in '91 and '89. Recent trends indicate that computing may now be as popular as music







THE TEAM



Steve James: Steve joined CU as Deputy Editor in January 1989 before eventually progressing to take the reigns a year after. A jovial fellow, Steve likes nothing better than relaxing with pints of Cider and the odd libelous anecdote.



Dan Slingsby: Deputy Dan joined the team in April 1990, and spends most of his time editing our Screen Scene review section, proofing hundreds of pages and perusing the hundreds of PD demos we receive each month. However, he still manages time to squeeze in the odd game-playing session and stuffing his face with chicken kebabs.



Steve Merrett: Steve moved over from editing Amiga Action in November 1990, and became our Editorial Consultant. A massive games fan, Steve is responsible for our In Devs and First Impressions features and can often be found idling away with a game of *Kick Off II* or *Jimmy White's Snooker*.



Mat Broomfield: Mat's fave pastime is stuffing his face with E-numbers, whilst ogling the latest technical advancement. However, he's also a keen gamer who enjoys the more cerebral delights of *Eye Of The Beholder* and the like.



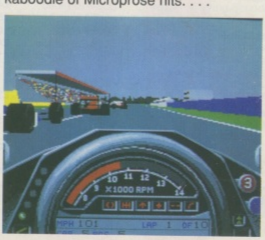
Steve Keen: The third Steve has been with us for the last two issues, and joined us from our sister publication, Sinclair User. Our avid Staff Writer is a fan of all things trivial, and when he's not messing around with gadgets and toys he often finds time for a game of *Monkey Island*.

WIN GREAT GAMES OF '91!

To round off our look at the heady world of the Amiga, we've teamed up with Microprose to bring you a bundle of games for your machine. The competition to takes the form of a phone line, where there is a question awaiting your attention. When you are sure of your answer, write the answer down on a postcard and send it to us at CU Amiga, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU. You can enter as many times as you wish, but please note that the number will cost you 34p a minute during cheap rate, and 45p per minute during peak hours.

So what's on offer? Microprose have won a whole host of Screen and Superstars this year, and we are offering you the chance to win a game bundle containing everything that they have released this year. That includes *Grand Prix*, *Midwinter II*, *Knights Of The Sky*, *Covert Action*, and *Silent Service II* - quite an impressive array. To stand a chance of winning the bundle, simply ring 0839 335516, listen to the question and put your answer on a postcard.

Then place your entry in an envelope and send it to the usual CU Amiga address, marked MICROPROSE COMPETITION. Any entries unmarked will be rendered invalid. Please make sure that your entry reaches us by the 26th of January. The first three correct entries out of the bag each win the whole kaboodle of Microprose hits. . . .



SO WHO DO YOU THINK WAS BEST IN 1991?

It's that time of year again, where CU and the rest of the magazines within the EMAP Images building reward excellence within the computer game industry with their coveted Golden Joystick awards. It's the industry's version of the Oscars, and more importantly, it's you, the reader, who decides who gets what, and all respondents to the survey will be eligible for our £500 worth of software free prize draw.

THE CATEGORIES ARE:

BEST AMIGA GRAPHICS:

BEST AMIGA SOUNDTRACK:

BEST AMIGA SIMULATION:

BEST AMIGA COIN-OP CONVERSION:

AMIGA GAME OF THE YEAR:

PROGRAMMING TEAM OF THE YEAR:

HARDWARE MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR:

SOFTWARE HOUSE OF THE YEAR:

WORST GAME OF THE YEAR:

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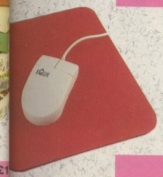


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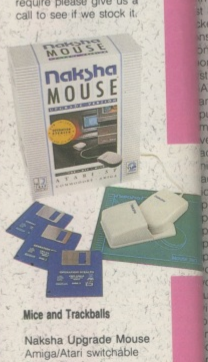
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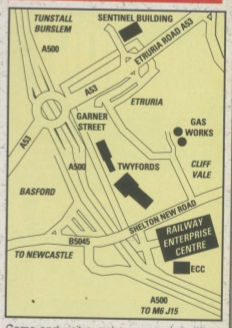
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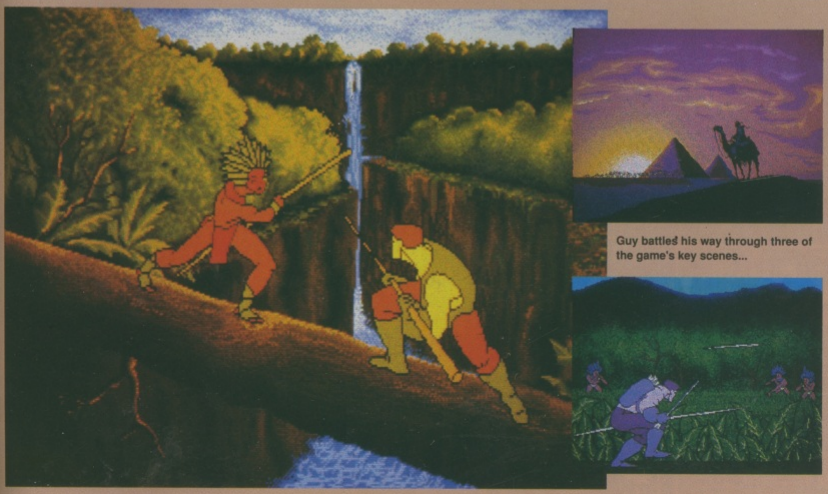
The combination of Space Ace-style graphics and fully interactive gameplay seems an unfeasible pipe-dream. Steve 'Mince Spy' Merrett spoke to Readysoft about their attempt to bridge the gap...

PLAYABILITY PLOY 'Actually, I think that some of the flak we've taken regarding the laser disk conversions is a little unjustified,' comments Readysoft's project leader, David Foster. 'After all, when you play a *Dragon's Lair* or *Space Ace* coin-op, you know what you're getting, so why be surprised when the computer conversion is the same?' Was such criticism the main reason for the advent of *Guy Spy*, the first supposedly fully-interactive game to emerge from their Canadian base? 'Yes, we've already made a name for ourselves for quality animation, and we wanted to try to combine this with a completely playable game. Hopefully, we'll silence a few critics along the way.'

THE NAME IS SPY... GUY SPY Consequently, Guy Spy is the latest hero to emerge from a country known for its rugged Lumberjacks, square-jawed Mounties, and butch Ice Hockey players, and Readysoft are claiming that it will bridge the gap between full playability and their famed graphical finesse. They don't, however, consider that *Guy* is the furthest they can take the system. 'Although we consider it as a large step forward, we have to admit that the system isn't totally interactive,' Foster concedes, 'but, nevertheless, it is a remarkable advance considering we aren't using CD-ROM technology.' Will it be another 'move at the right time' job then? 'No, definitely not. We've now got longer, more playable stages based on a series of game styles and played within a series of linked sequences rather than nonsensical interludes.'

Guy himself is a marked departure from such reluctant/cowardly heroes as Dexter and Dirk The Daring, and is Readysoft's equivalent to James Bond, with deliberate Indiana Jones-style overtones. Typically, in a scenario worthy of both heroes, an evil Germanic tycoon, Von Max, is currently scouring the world in search of a series of crystals which will power the Doomsday Weapon he has had built. Before the evil genius can hold the world to ransom, Guy has been sent to thwart his plans, but Von Max is on to him and has left a series of henchmen to thwart his plans.

SKETCHY DETAILS Thus, over fifteen action-packed stages and a number of game styles, Guy must battle his way across Europe in search of the elusive master criminal. 'We came up with the idea during one of our planning meetings,' Foster recounts, 'and a group of seven or eight of us basically created the character and built the plot up from there. It was here that we decided on how to tackle the playability problem, so we started a few sketches and took it from there.' Did combining a more flexible hero cause problems with the detail and size of the sprites. 'It's certainly



Guy battles his way through three of the game's key scenes...

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GUY SPY

more memory intensive, but we had allowed for it when we put the storyboard together, so it was basically just a matter of making sure that the action flowed well.' Just how controllable is Guy? 'Depending on the scene, the player can control him using whatever options are relevant during each scene. For instance, in a fight scene, he can perform all the usual punches, rolls and dodges, whilst he can also take aim and pick off Von Max's cronies in a shoot-out.'

'We've made a point of making the action instinctive and easy to control,' he continues,' and we'd like to think that the player will be able to manipulate the joystick to make Guy move in the way they imagine he should.' So, has combining more interactive sprites with their Disney-style backdrops meant that *Guy* isn't as varied as, say, *Space Ace*, in terms of the number of scenes within the game? 'It's not really fair to compare them,' says Foster. 'Yes, we have reduced the number of screens that *Lair* and *Ace* had, but most of the screens in those games were only on screen for mere seconds anyway. In *Guy*, things take place on a series of screens, and continue until the player wins through. However, to keep the feeling of an interactive cartoon, we've retained key animated linking sequences to update the plot, so Guy will enter a chalet or a cable car ready for the next stage, or will square up to an opponent, for instance.'

SPRITE-LY HERO How long do the graphics take to prepare for such a large game? 'Well, it varies: we've been working on *Guy* since January, but we didn't get anything on screen until March. Our team is made up of an Amiga coder and a trio of graphic artists who handle the conversion from paper sketches to on-screen reality.' What problems have they had? 'Our main one has been incorporating the improved gameplay, but luckily this was solved fairly early on in development, so now we're just slotting the graphics in as they're needed. It still took longer than we expected, though.'

The Readysoft process is a fairly

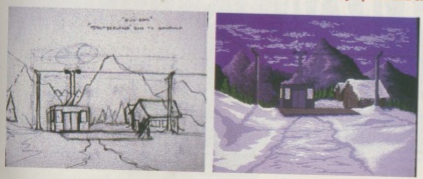


In keeping with the cinematic feel of past Readysoft games, each level is preceded by a scene-setting sequence, with Guy arriving at each stage only to run into the trouble awaiting him there.



The fight scenes now react intelligently to the player's moves, and the 'move and hope' system used by *Space Ace* and *Dragon's Lair* has been expanded so that, whilst full interaction with the screen still isn't possible, the player can make Guy weave, bob and punch whenever their on-screen persona looks in mortal danger.

GENESIS OF A HERO With the basic idea for each scene prepared and sketched beforehand on paper, one of the trio of graphic artists digitises the sketch which is then saved as an IFF file and loaded into *DPaint*. A second artist will then go about touching up the scanned picture, by outlining the faint lines and adding selected colours from the sixteen-colour palette. Each scene takes roughly a day to complete, and the sprites are developed simultaneously by the third artist. These characters are then overlaid on to this screen and their movements refined so that they don't look out of place within the scene (ie. walk through walls). When all this is running smoothly, any rough edges are smoothed and the completed scene is saved to hard disk for later inclusion into the main game. However, with graphics as intricate as Readysoft's, there is a price: the game will span six or more disks, although second drives will be supported.



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GUY SPY

simple one considering the complexity and detail of their games. The 68000 coder writes the basic game routines on the Amiga for porting over to other machines such as the PC and Mac(!), whilst the three graphic artists work on backdrops and sprites between them. The development sketches are digitised using *Digiview* and are then touched up using *DPaint*, where further detail is added from the 16-colour palette. These are incorporated into the code a section at a time, and the freshly-designed sprites and game objects are then added to complete the stage. 'We're currently using over 1500 frames of animation,' Foster continues, 'and creating each stage individually makes linking them together easier for when it comes to compressing the game down on to floppy.'

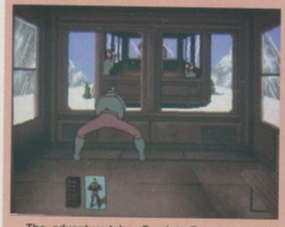
MESSAGE ENDS... With 20-30 frames completed a day, work is steady but unhurried. However, the team are now battling to condense the game down on to six floppies. Sound is always the last thing to be added to their games, and Readysoft are currently scouring Britain for someone to incorporate the game's many effects and sound. 'We intend to have a movie-style tune running through the whole game, and will also feature assorted sound effects to tie in with the action. If all goes according to plan, as Guy punches and shoots, the sound reacts accordingly.' How pleased is he with its progress? 'I think we've covered a lot of ground with *Guy*, and although it's still not fully-interactive, it's far more playable than anything we've done.' And the future for Guy? Is there a sequel in the works or even Guy Spy: The Movie? 'Wait and see,' Foster ends enigmatically...

ON THE COMPETITION AND THE FUTURE

So what does Foster think of other peoples' attempts to combine superior graphics with playability – Core Design's *Heimdall*, for example? 'I've only seen a few screenshots and reviews,' he concedes, 'but it's flattering to see that our graphical style has obviously been the inspiration.' Does he think that the gap is being breached? 'Yes, all the time. It's going to take a while before we combine them perfectly, and I don't think that it will be totally possible on the Amiga or ST.' Are they signing the Amiga's death warrant as their development machine? 'Not just yet, but we're starting to look at the PC and its palette of 256 colours and it's looking very inviting indeed. In addition, CD-ROM is tempting, but I don't think it'll really get going for a while. It would be unwise to write off the Amiga just yet, though.'



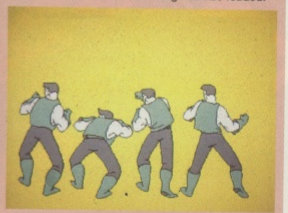
The move towards fully interactive cartoons has been made easier by keeping *Guy's* many sub-games simple but playable. The ski section, for instance, involves the avoidance of a series of obstacles as Guy makes chase down a cluttered and very steep ski slope.

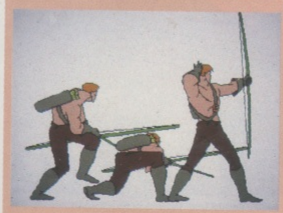




The adventure takes Guy into Egypt, to the Amazon and, eventually, to Berlin where Von Max is making the final preparations to his deadly machine. However, waiting for our hero at each point are the evil genius's henchmen, all of whom must be disposed of before the next stage can be loaded.







So far, *Guy's* sprites have used over 1500 frames of animation to get them moving both quickly and realistically. The large size of each character means that any small gaps in the 'tweening' section between moves will be more obvious. Consequently, the sprite is redrawn having been altered slightly each time, and simply added on screen whenever the relevant move is needed. It isn't as memory-effective as breaking the sprite up, but Readysoft consider the result worth the price.

SHADOWLANDS

Domark are set to enter the RPG arena with an adventure set in the Shadowlands. Steve 'National Elf' Merrett visited this strange world.



The game's lands are massive scrolling affairs and are split into five distinct play areas, including an Egyptian-style land and a sprawling forest.

SHADOWY GOINGS-ON . . . In their first entry to the RPG genre, Domark and veteran development team, Teque, have joined forces to create the dark world of *Shadowlands*, where evil rules over the five-storey kingdom full of zombies, skeletons and other unworldly creatures. The player is cast as a human whose Earthly form has been destroyed and his remaining bones scattered throughout the massive play area. Thus, recruiting four wanderers of the Shadowlands, the player must pit their new-found team's wits against the many puzzles within the game arena.

One of Teque's main aims was to give the game a predominantly Japanese feel, and this is apparent from the very start. The game opens with a team selection screen, where the round-eyed looks and strength attributes of the four characters can be altered where necessary. Following this, the game switches to an isometric view to depict the detailed landscape and its many contents. Another priority on Teque's agenda was to make the game accessible to both the veteran RPG fan and the newcomer. Thus, the entire game, from movement to object selection and fighting, is controlled using the mouse, and this simple system allows the player to perform virtually any feasible act on the game's many objects and locations. For instance, teleporters can be accessed and keys placed into specific locks with a quick press of the mouse button. This system is then used to piece together the many clues that stand between the team and the recovery of your bones.

TEQUE-NIQUE In an attempt to capture the interest of the novice and casual RPG players, Teque have concentrated on making the massive adventure easy to play by limiting the controls to the mouse only. Thus, using a simple point'n'click method, virtually every avenue of exploration is immediately available, taking the frustration out of the many puzzles. Another factor is that the game utilises a technique which Domark have called Photoscape, which basically means that light in the world of *Shadowlands* behaves as it should, with torches gradually burning down and the corners of the dungeon gloomily lit.

Team leader, Dean Lester, is the creator of *Shadowlands*, and over the last year what started as a nice idea for an RPG has expanded far beyond his expectations. With the rest of the team made up of graphics man, Mark Anthony, and coder Barry Monk, between them they have taken ideas from games as diverse as the *Ultima* series and the SSI games, whilst ensuring that the ease of use remains. Due to the size of the project, though, the game is still months away from completion, with three of the five lands still to be implemented. Despite it being another new avenue for Putney-based Domark, they are confident that *Shadowlands* will be another string to their bow and are hoping that their simplistic control system will breath new life into what can be a tired genre. We'll be able to see for ourselves when the game is finally released in March.





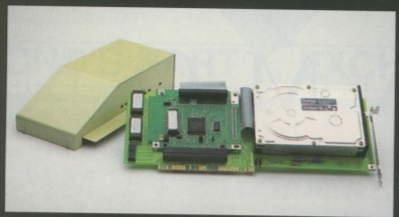
The game has been given an Oriental feel, both in its simplicity of use and graphical style.

Mega-Teque **One of the oldest development teams going, Teque have been responsible for some of the most ground-breaking games ever. Pete Harrap, for instance, was the man behind Gremlin's Monty Mole classics, and since then they have produced games for Domark, Krisalis and Ocean. As well as original products, Such as *Manchester United* and the European follow-up, they also produced the conversions of *Escape From The Planet Of The Robot Monsters*, *Chase HQ* and *Klax*, and are currently beavering away on another football game for Krisalis.**



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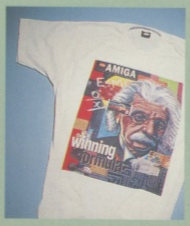
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SCREEN SCENE

Welcome to Screen Scene. Our reviews are timed to coincide with the release dates of the games themselves, so you won't find any out of date reviews here, only up to the minute information.

SOUND Four channel sampled stereo rock or a Stock, Aitken and Waterman drum track? The higher the rating the higher you run the volume.

GRAPHICS Not just overall prettiness, but animation, style, design and the way the visuals fit in. So it doesn't have to be the prettiest game in the world to score high here.

PLAYABILITY This rating lets you into how easy it is to get into a game, and once you start playing whether it's addictive or uninteresting dross.

LASTABILITY Speaks for itself. The higher the rating the longer you'll be loading it up. Ties in closely with the playability rating.

OVERALL The most important of the lot. And here's CU's rough guide to ratings:-

0- 29%	Man, this stinks.
30-39%	Phew, avoid.
40-49%	Below par.
50-59%	Worth checking out if you're a fan of the game style.
60-69%	Above average, but with room for improvement.
70-84%	Good but flawed.
85-92%	ScreenStar, recommended.
93%+	Super Star, our highest accolade. Do not miss.

AMIGA SPEC Watch out for this addition to our reviews. The Amiga is the finest home computer that money can buy, and if we really feel that a game is pushing the boundaries of the machine we'll tell you how and why. Each and every Amiga soec will be tailored to the review. Some of the ratings are objective – eg number of onscreen colours, levels etc: others, such as an assessment of the scrolling speed, are based upon the considered opinions of the CU Amiga team. All such subjective ratings are marked out of ten.

AMIGA SPEC	
MEMORY REQUIRED	440K
SCROLL SPEED	6
COLLISION DETECTION	4
COLOURS ON SCREEN	32
LEVELS	48



CU AMIGA SUPER STAR

Ninety-three percent and a game's worth a superstar. We hardly throw these around — but if a game displays totally superior qualities, it just might be in with a chance.

CU AMIGA SCREENSTAR

The CU Screen Star is for games scoring 85%-92%. If a Screen Star is awarded then you can be sure that the product will have reached a high standard in gameplay, sound and graphics, and that it will have long lasting appeal.



REALMS, *page 90*



WWF, *page 72*



SPACE GUN, *page 81*



FANTASTIC VOYAGE, *page 85*

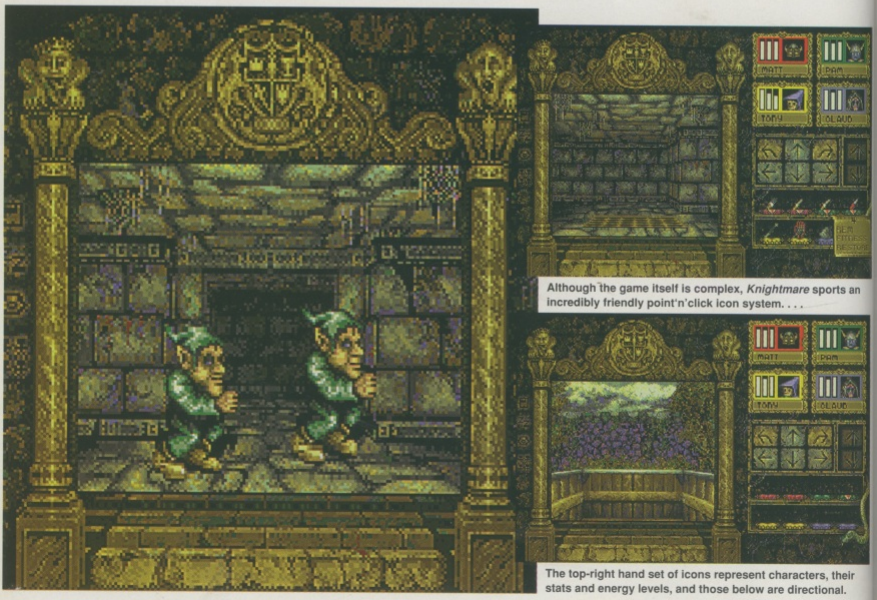
Children's television: it's a wasteland of American cartoons, inane presenters, and Australian series – but who doesn't watch it when they've got a day off sick? One programme, though, will catch the eye of any role-playing enthusiast, and that's Knightmare, which uses computer imagery to transport hapless youths into a dungeon watched over by the mysterious Treguard. Mindscape snapped up the license and now Tony '*Captive*' Crowther's game reaches the shops just in time for Christmas.

Superficially this is a *Dungeon Master*-style game, with four characters, drawn from a selection of races and professions, exploring 3D dungeons whilst combatting monsters and overcoming puzzles and traps. The party tackles four quests – or underground complexes – in search of the Shield of Justice, Sword of Freedom, Cup of Life, and Crown of Glory, and can choose the order they approach the first three (although in all honesty the player must find the Shield to get the skills required for the others). Treguard's image is everywhere, offering advice and giving a fix on the player's location – just in case they need to get help from Mindscape, a useful feature which others should adopt.

This is where the similarity to *Dungeon Master* ends; the game is much closer to *Captive*, or even Gremlin's excellent *BSS Jane Seymour*. *Knightmare* is pretty tough, and there are no 'introductory levels'. All four sections of the game demand skill, forethought, and, most especially, careful management of resources. My party came close to dying as I hadn't paid enough attention to their food levels – so make sure they have enough spider legs to munch on. Health, Stamina and Magic are shown as bars near the character portraits, and they are depleted through movement and combat. Sleep recuperates lost points, and if a priest casts an REM spell they are recovered much faster.



KNIGHT



Although the game itself is complex, *Knightmare* sports an incredibly friendly point'n'click icon system. . . .

The top-right hand set of icons represent characters, their stats and energy levels, and those below are directional.

LEVEL BEST **As the characters progress they learn to improve their skills. Starting off a novice, moving through tenderfoot, adept, and up to master, they blossom into Gladiators, Priests, and so on. Practice makes perfect, so it's a good idea to pass that magic wand around the party once in a while to give everyone the opportunity to increase levels. At first, only one or two options will be available: stabbing with a knife, for example, or opening a door with a spell.**

The puzzles are bizarre and typical of Crowther's weird sense of humour. Each Quest is guarded by a tree monster who demands an object before letting anyone pass. The first request - for the tree's child to be returned – stumped (no pun intended) me for a while, until I remembered the twig I'd found earlier! Finding objects is far from easy. Because of the nature of the graphics, some items are all-but-invisible against the background; but after a while your eye becomes trained to spot objects. I walked right past a key I was searching for at least three times before locating it.

As with *Captive*, the players' stats can be viewed individually or in a block of four. This is very handy when checking for overburdened or injured characters. The graphics are, on the whole, attractive and full of original touches, like plant pots on the walls and flooded passageways. Sometimes the graphics are garish, but usually they're just right. I can foresee problems for those people playing on a TV and not a monitor: as I've mentioned, the writing and other details can be obscure, although thankfully the program includes a preferences option to change colours.



TMARE

CU AMIGA SCREENSTAR

This doesn't help disguise the numerous spelling mistakes – 'enterance' instead of 'entrance' and 'sandles' instead of 'sandals' were two I discovered.

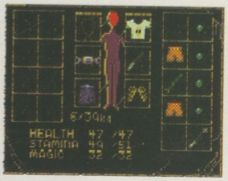
One of my favourite parts of the game is the novel use of transport. The players whizz around in a mining cart at the beginning and then row a small boat in shark infested waters. Unlike *Dungeon Master* and its derivatives, *Knightmare*'s monsters use some intelligence. If you run off and cower behind a door, don't expect the goblins or whatever to wait around forever, as they're likely to wander off





***Above*: Knightmare differs from many of its Dungeon-based rivals in that its monsters are truly original. Ranging from Tree Fiends and sharks to the more traditional goblins, some approach half-a-screen in size.**

***Below*: As with *Captive*, Tony Crowther has programmed the game so that character stats can be viewed individually, as shown, or together in a block of four. . . .**



KNIGHT MARE

and hide, launching a devastating attack when you least expect it. One of the best ways to reduce risks is to follow the manual's advice to use either headphones or a hi-fi link to bring out the best of the genuinely impressive sound – the stereo effect allows you to trace monsters very simply by following the sound of their footsteps.

Ultimately the game leads to a confrontation with the FrightKnight and his boss Lord Fear – a fight to daunt even the toughest of adventurers. *Knightmare*'s innovative combat/spell system succeeds, mainly because each character can be 'programmed' to perform certain tasks with a single click of the mouse, and this avoids all of those tedious menu searches while a jolly green giant slaughters the party. Right and left clicks of the mouse can bring wildly different results, but a couple of minutes with it will get you in the swing of things.

A game this huge has secrets that even an in-depth review won't yield. And the fact that I'll keep playing it until I finish it speaks volumes.

I love this game. It's taxing, whimsical and, unlike most RPGs, it actually has a sense of humour. I wonder whether the use of the TV name is so wise, though? Most kids will find this too complicated and, let's be honest, not remotely like the TV series at all. The manual contains a poster of the actor who plays Treguard (I can't wait to put that up on my wall!!) and an invitation to join the Knightmare Adventurers Club. Whatever the case, I'm thrilled with *Knightmare*; and you will be too. One of those games you just cannot put down.

Mat Regan



Goblin's are everywhere – you can be one, too. In fact, a number of customised goblins, including a ninja goblin, are available for playing.



Run, rabbit, run . . . or you might end up in a pie! When players feel peckish they can shoot these cuddly-looking but not-so-harmless bunnies.



The conflict begins. Ultimately this leads to a confrontation with Frightknight and his boss, Lord Fear, a fight to daunt the bravest of men.

CAPTIVE AUDIENCE ***Captive*****, Tony Crowther's previous venture into RPGs, topped the charts and was also voted Adventure Game of the Year in 1990. Set in the far future, the task is to guide robots through worlds with the aid of a portable super-computer. While the catacombs in *Captive* were computer-generated, *Knightmare*'s dungeons were designed by hand, making the overall design much smoother.**

RABBITS FROM HELL **In the forest that marks the beginning to the quests, cute bunnies are seen frolicking in the meadows. Don't be deceived – these buggers are vicious. Hack away at them whenever possible, as you're rewarded with a rabbit pie. Later on, when the party comes back wearied from its Quest, you might find that the rabbits have been up to their usual habits and that the whole place will be crawling with them. So lob some holy hand grenades to get rid of them, and make Monty Python proud.**

MUSIC TO MY EARS **When creating the music and effects, Mindscape travelled to Anglia Television in deepest, darkest Norfolk, in order to make use of their audio department. Although more than half-a-meg is needed to get the best out of the game (along with headphones or connection to a stereo as described elsewhere), even through a mono speaker the results are fabulous. Invest in some extra memory (owners of the 500 Plus will be pleased to know it's fully compatible) and a stereo lead – you'll be surprised at the difference in atmosphere.**

Although programmed with the beginner in mind, there are plenty of opportunities for the role-player to engage in traditional character generation.

MINDSCAPE £25.99

'TV-inspired RPG that's full of humour and fun'

GRAPHICS	81%
SOUND	88%
LASTABILITY	80%
PLAYABILITY	85%

OVERALL 90%


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That's right man!
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PRETTY COOL HUH?

Anyway, yours truly is the only one who can see 'em!
I've gotta spray-paint things, get radical on my skateboard, use my trusty slingshot, and in general behave like a nuisance, man.
Plus, with evil dudes like Nelson the bully and Sideshow Bob getting in my way, it's a good thing I've got the rest of the Simpsons to help me out!
So if you're a decent person a patriot, and somebody who cares about this sorry planet, you'll do the right thing.

BUy THiS GaME!
Thanks man.



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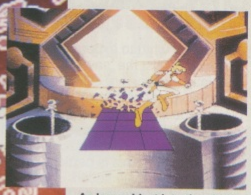
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As lasers blast into the platforms, Dexter must jump to safety.



'Beware your dark side' warns Kimberly – and here he is. . .

SPACE ACE II

BORF'S REVENGE

I don't know what it is about the Readysoft laser-disk conversions, but there's something strangely appealing about them. We all know what to expect in terms of the series' minimal control over the character, but somehow they still offer a challenge that won't go away until the game has been completed. So, as can be expected, all the usual criticisms of the games can also be levied at this new addition to the family. However, due to what appears to be scrimping on Readysoft's part, somehow *Borf's Revenge* falls short of my already set expectations.

The scenario picks up straight from where the first game left off. Borf's evil plan to reduce the age of everybody within the galaxy using his Infanto-Ray backfired when the heroic Dexter used a mirror to reflect the blast so that Borf himself was regressed. However, in the opening scenes of the sequel, Borf's cronies, the mischievous Goons, have reversed the polarity of the Infanto-Ray and given the blue giant a blast to revert him to normality. Thus, Dexter's girlfriend, Kimberly, is once again whisked away to Borf's lair whilst you're left to give the Goons the slip and make your way into Borf's ship to rescue her.

Unlike the first game and, indeed, the others in the series, the most notable improvement in *Space Ace II* is that the game flows more smoothly and the scenes roll into each other perfectly. Conversely, though, this exposes just how few scenes the game contains, with a mere three to four covering each of the package's six disks. Starting with Kimberly's abduction, Dexter is immediately set upon by Borf's Goon friends and it's time to move the joystick at the right time to progress through the twenty-seven stages that stand between you and victory. There are five moves at your disposal, and clues to which will probably be the correct one are given by the positioning of exits and even the situations themselves – for instance, if Dexter is grabbed by a particularly hungry monster, it's odds-on that drawing his laser is the perfect remedy. However, due to the limited number of moves, certain ones will have different effects and whilst pressing the firebutton during one scene will draw our weedy hero's laser, in others it will activate the wrist-controller which temporarily boosts Dexter's weedy frame to that of his eponymous and beefier alter-ego, Space Ace. As the correct moves are chosen, the action takes Dexter past ravenous creatures and robotic security systems and into Borf's space station, for a final stand-off under the deadly Infanto-Ray's machinery.



One of the earlier problems, this creature must be shot twice.

There's not really a lot else to mention, as by now

SPACE ACE II
BORF'S REVENGE

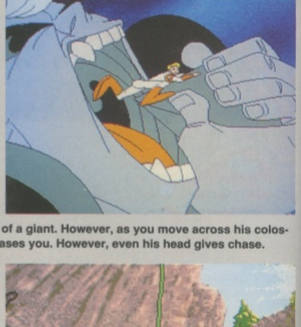
you'll know what to expect. However, whilst the 'save' and 'load' options are still mercifully present to avoid playing the same scenes repeatedly, Readysoft seem to have cut a few corners here and there. This is particularly notable in the sound department, where the game reuses all of the samples and effects from the first game. Considering that all these game's really have going for them is their presentation, this is a major faux-pas and the chance to add to the atmosphere has been completely wasted. Presumably, this is because Readysoft have created the game from scratch without the use of a coin-op for reference, but all the same it's a bit of a swizz. In addition, there are a few graphical rough edges, too, where a few more frames of animation might have been worthwhile.

So there you have it: the new Readysoft 'masterpiece'. Unless Super Don Quixote is on the cards, I have a feeling that they have milked this system as much as they can, and the advent of the supposedly more interactive *Guy Spy* seems to confirm this. If so, then it's about time, as the system started waning after the novelty of *Dragon's Lair* wore off. Perhaps I'm being a little harsh as I did find *Borf's Revenge* initially appealing, but for fifty quid I feel that perhaps Borf's next adventure will see him abandoning the Infanto-Ray and spending the profits of his first two defeats on an island in the Bahamas. A sure-fire triumph for the evil giant, methinks...

Steve Merrett







On facing your dark side, he expands his size to that of a giant. However, as you move across his colossal body he accidentally blows his limbs off as he chases you. However, even his head gives chase.





READYSOFT £44.95

'Enjoyable fare, but where's the gameplay?'

GRAPHICS	85%
SOUND	74%
LASTABILITY	33%
PLAYABILITY	57%

OVERALL 58%

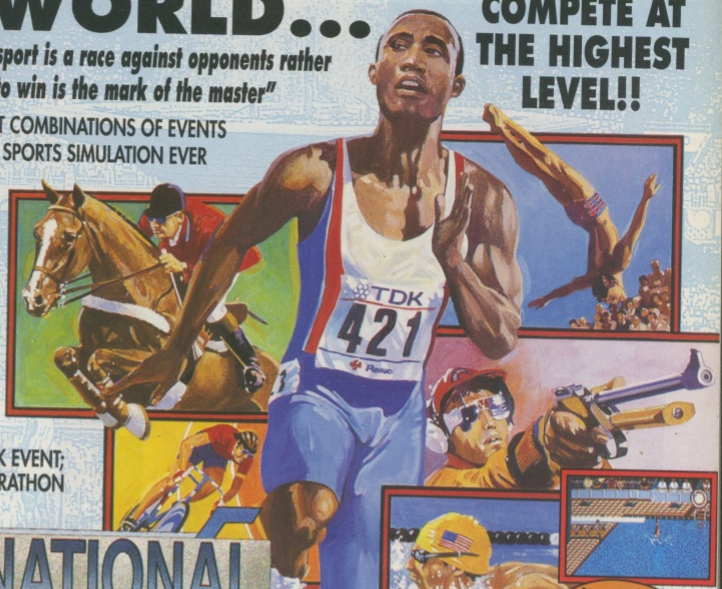
TAKING IT ON THE CHIN Chinless wonders, such as Dexter and *Dragon's Lair*'s Dirk The Daring, are real weeds compared to Vince and Paul from I*kari Warriors* or the beefy bloke from *Gods*. What we are waiting for, though, are the next batch of featureless 'heroes' to make their computer game debut. Coronation Street's Gail, for instance, is a person lacking in the chin department with assorted members of the Street's cast avoiding telling her to 'keep her chin up' (or at least where your face ends) when she has bother with Martin or her battle-axe mother-in-law, Ivy Tilsley. In addition, our PM, John Major, is lacking in the chin area, too, making his battle against a Federal Europe twice as hard. After all, he can't heed the advice of 'taking it on the chin', can he?

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HEART OF

Jake Masters is one of those Americans who provide a strong case against tourism. Loud, self-confident to a ridiculous degree, and blessed with the silly nickname of 'Lucky', Jake's an adventurer, bankrupt importer, and self-appointed hero. Finding himself in Hong Kong in the 1930s with his Airborn Imports business deliberately destroyed by E.A. Lomax, a hardened rival, the former war ace decides to take up Lomax's 'offer' of a reward to rescue his kidnapped daughter, Kate.

Kate is a do-gooder nurse, snatched from the hospital where she was tending sick children – naturally – by the evil henchmen of Li Deng, the area's major crimelord. Lucky's task revolves around freeing her from Deng's palace, but only recruiting the help of Zhao Chi, a local, Ninja. This is where *Heart of China*'s major novelty feature comes into operation: the player switches between Lucky and Chi (and Kate, once she's been rescued), because many of the situations within the game can only be solved by switching between the trio. For instance, during a search for healing herbs, the shopkeeper, Madam Wu, is a xenophobe and refuses to sell them to Yankee Jake. However, by switching to Chi to make the initial contact, any barriers will be broken and she'll talk to him. Oddly for a supposed hero, though, Jake takes a backseat to the actions of Chi and Kate later in the game.

The first stop is Li Deng's sinister Chengdu Fortress. This comes as a slight disappointment as, after searching the building, with the exception of a few locations in the areas of Katmandu, Istanbul and the Orient Express, there's very little to see. In addition, the lack of locations would be bearable if the puzzles offered any real challenge but, sadly, these are severely lacking, too. And this may leave some adventurers feeling short-changed. To try to counter this, Dynamix have incorporated numerous







The first stop for Lucky is the bar, in search of the elusive ninja Chi. The barman Ho is little help, as he knows Lucky and his tendency to drink copious amounts of alcohol! Questioning Ho results in a beating from the local goons, as does talking to the lady of poor repuit. Still, you can always come back the next day – which reduces the bonus offered by Lomax!

CHINA

ways of finishing the game, with a non-linear progression through it. Whenever the player makes a choice that takes him or her along an alternative path, a message pops up stating that you've decided to follow a particular plot branch. In truth, there are very few chances to make 'alternative' decisions, but the idea is a nice one and will hopefully be exploited further in Dynamix's next release.

As with the company's previous foray with this system, *Rise of the Dragon*, *HOC* comes as a 1Mb-only game spanning an astounding nine disks. Unfortunately, single-drive users will find themselves swapping disks like there's no tomorrow and this interrupts the flow of the game enormously. Even with a hard drive, access time is far from quick, but is a vast improvement nonetheless.



Playing the game is simplicity itself, as the interface is a joy to use. All usable objects can be dragged around the screen, and icons at the bottom of the screen act as inventories. Clicking on Jake's portrait brings up either a quick inventory – which is used for manipulating objects – or the main screen, which also includes a large shot of the character. This allows you to wear items of clothing (important when infiltrating the palace) or activate weapons, and so on. This may limit the numbers of actions you can perform (even more so than Sierra's SCI interface) but, on the plus side, it makes playing the game considerably easier.

The period flavour of *HOC* is its strongest aspect, along with the Indiana Jones plot – although the pseudo-mystical and religious overtones are thankfully missing. Dialogue is a scream, and Lucky can't help winding up people with his 'Oh, yeah?' attitude, while the usually silent Chi has a sardonic sense of humour.

If presentation is important to you, then this is the best adventure on the Amiga. The music, from dramatic scores to eastern tunes, sound superb when played through a stereo system, but my monitor fails to do it justice. The graphical style works much better here than in *Rise of the Dragon*, and from the intro sequence to the finale the game is a wonder to behold. The price for all this though – in money, access time and disk-swapping – is hard to justify in my opinion. Unless you're a total newcomer to the genre, I'd think long and hard before spending the money on *Heart of China*.

Matt Regan











Madam Wu, the herbalist, offers Lucky a false passport to get past the official at the airport. Trying to use it lands Masters in jail – it's the passport of a wanted felon! Bluffing is the best method of dealing with the upstart civil servant, as Lucky's gift of the gab confuses the sap totally! Then it's on to Deng's palace and an encounter with a cow...and a tobacco-less coolie eager to help!

GETTING IN ON THE ACT

***Heart of China*'s original incarnation on the PC featured the use of live actors for truly gasp-inducing graphic images. Over eighty actors were cast and decked out in period costumes, filmed in front of white backdrops. Their digitised images were then superimposed over painted scenery. The shooting took well over a year, running simultaneously with the programmers' work of creating the actual game system. Despite the amazing success of the project, though, the filming wasn't without certain hitches: the actress playing Kate Lomax, Kimberly Greenwood, discovered she was pregnant a couple of months into shooting, and recasting and refilming was deemed too expensive at that point. So tricks were used to hide her ever-apparent bump, to the extent of hiding it with cushions, retouching the images on a computer, and so on. Unfortunately the Amiga's colour palette doesn't run to these feats, so we're stuck with drawn representations of the actors!**

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A394.....AGATRON ANIMATION 27 *
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The plot commences with an overheard rumour about the location of King Tut's tomb. This prompts the party to travel to Egypt, which in turn leads to further adventures and sub-plots winding on Mars, Mercury and beyond. The character generation system is marvellous; skills are determined by professions which vary from the mundane to the bizarre. Each profession gives the player a unique set of abilitiesr: actors learn eloquence and theatrics and engineers study mechanics and science. Efective parties contain people with differing backgrounds, as a wide range of skills are needed to successfully play the game, with mental and practical skills as important as physical ones.

The Victorian era has been carefully recreated right down to the use of pounds, shillings and pence, although cash figures can be converted to pennies-only for those who find mental calculations tricky. As Great Britain was still the most powerful nation at the time, social standing is fundamental and characters range from the proletarian all the way up to the aristocracy. This determines wealth, and also effects, such as the way other people view the character.

Unusually, the emphasis is firmly on puzzle solving and interaction with personalities in the game world. Wandering around looking for a fight reaps next to no rewards, while talking (and frequently bribing) non-player characters yields information about the job in hand. The biggest drawback is the graphics – they're competently drawn, but the overhead movement screens are about as clear as British Rail's ticket pricing. Likewise, the sound is poor, but these failings are more than forgiveable in the light of the intriguing scenario and novel feel to the game.

Space 1889 is by no means the best RPG I've played, yet I wholeheartedly recommend it for those searching for a game with an original concept and lashings of creamy playability and atmosphere. Tally ho, and God save the Queen!

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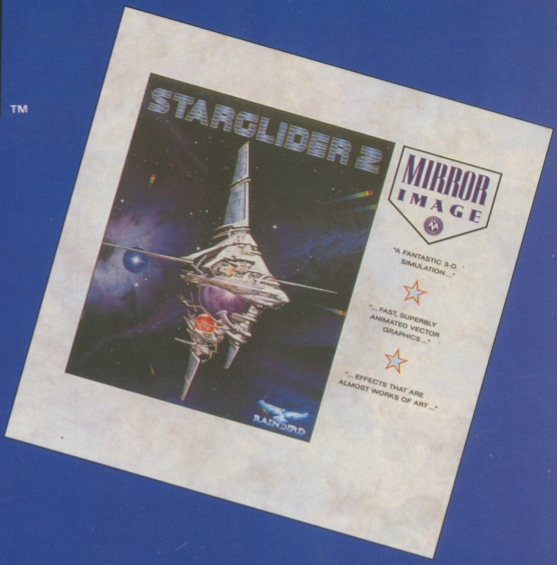
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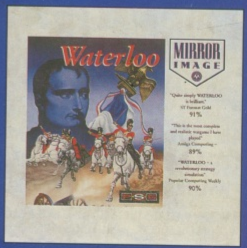












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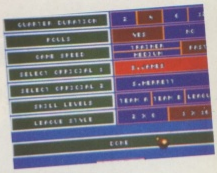
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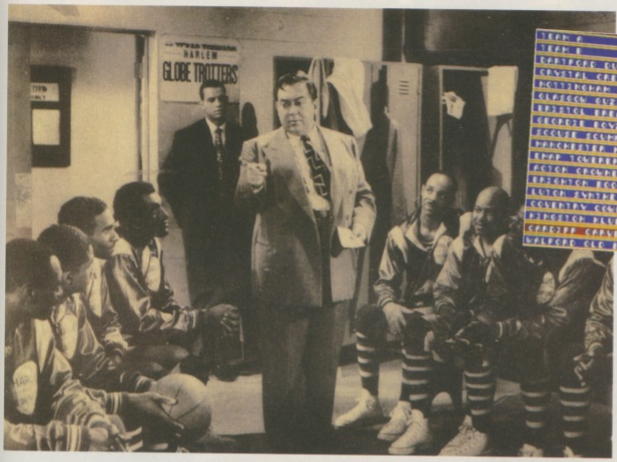
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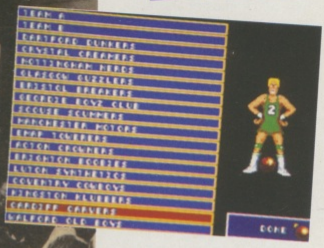
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TIP OFF



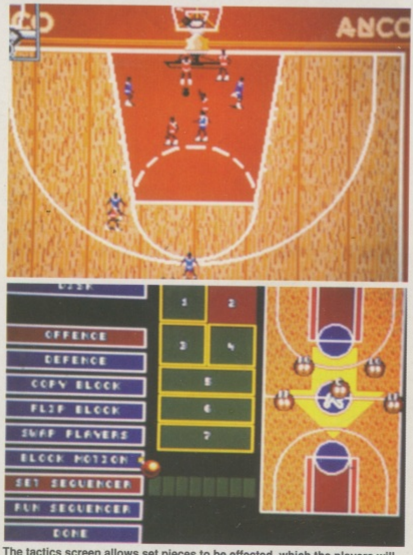




Tip Off's options allow the player to choose between a managerial stance or a simple arcade game. Adopting the role of the manager, you will be forced to select and drop players and build a team that will battle their way to the top of the league. In addition, using a similar system, the length of the game and the style of the match can be selected from another menu screen.

Whilst the Amiga-owning world impatiently awaits *Kick Off III*, Anco attempt to bridge the gap with their foray into the world of Basketball. And, whilst it's by no means as immediately playable as *Kick Off* and its sequel, it is by far the best Basketball game to grace the machine. Actually, with competition limited to Cinemaware's *TV Sports: Basketball*, that's not saying a great deal, but *Tip Off* is probably the most playable home variety we are likely to see. In terms of graphical and presentation styles, we're in familiar land here, with programmer Steve Screech's tiny sprites once again adorning the screen, and numerous *Player Manager*-style option screens preluding the actual matches. However, the sound front has been greatly improved, with a sample-laden tune interrupting the load and the furious squeak of sneakers against wooden court complementing the action.

Everything within the game is joystick-controlled,



The tactics screen allows set pieces to be effected, which the players will then attempt to recreate during a match.

with its many icons all available at the press of the firebutton. As well as the usual features we have come to expect – length of matches, choice of ref (although modesty prevents me mentioning the inclusion of a certain dashing Editorial Consultant who makes an appearance!), skill level, etc – the more strategic can also opt to lay down complex play moves, which your on-court team will then endeavour to follow. However, complicated as this may sound, the moves are easy to effect and follow, and don't get in the way of the main action at all – a major bonus.

The actual game itself is played over a series of court surfaces, with the players sprinting in from the right ready for the start – the 'Tip Off' for possession of the ball. In keeping with Kick *Off*'s sparse graphical style, the players are represented by tiny sprites, but on playing it becomes apparent that they are considerably more impressive than their footy-playing counterparts.

TIP OFF

Depending on their direction and position on the pitch, these guys spin on the spot, poke the ball between their legs, or even dummy the opposition – all in perfect detail. Apparently, there's over 500 frames of animation per player, and in the heat of a match it's easy to see where it all went. Control over these miniature Magic Johnsons is simplicity itself, with the joystick activating 'steals', blocks and shots instinctively, depending on the player's vicinity to the ball. In addition, passing and shooting are equally simple, with the computer deciding who the best player to pass to is, and also gauging the accuracy of a shot from distance. The latter is indicated by an enlargement of the ring itself, along with an indication as to where the ball will hit it.

So how does it fare in the playability stakes? Comparing *Tip Off* to *Kick Off* and its sequel is grossly unfair as the two sports are so greatly different. Basketball is played over a smaller area, with more complex rules so, as a result, the game is slightly more disjointed than *Kick Off*. However, by ignoring a few rules (you can now pass back over the halfway line, for instance), Screech has tried to make the game more fluid. Personally, I think it works well, and that the game is both fast and easy to get into, but fans of the rough'n'tumble of *Kick Off* may be disappointed. Of course, this is a fault inherited from the real thing, so neither Anco nor Screech can be held responsible. A brave attempt which is bound to come as a slight disappointment after Anco's two Footy classics, *Tip Off* is still a playable and impressive game. Not quite a three-pointer, but it still scores with me.

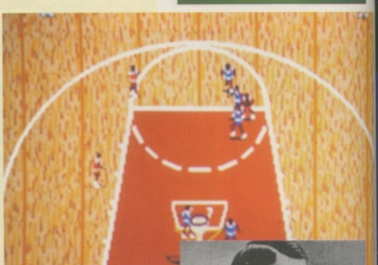
Steve Merrett

COCK-A-HOOP! Although it is widely believed that professional Basketball came into existence in 1949, along with the formation of the National Basketball Association, stories actually date its conception to fifty-seven years before that. In addition, the rules have changed a great deal since then, too, with the original game's 14-man a-side teams battling it out in a caged arena gradually evolving into the present 5-man teams and courts we are used to seeing today.

The seed of the idea lies with one James Naismith, a PE teacher from Montreal. Originally, Naismith's intentions were to promote Christianity within young men, and joining the local YMCA in the capacity of Physical Instructor, started to teach Baseball, Football and assorted Gym activities. However, due to the area's varying weather conditions, the class rapidly got fed up with the limited indoor activities available during the winter months. Consequently, Naismith came up with the idea of a fast-paced indoor sport and the germ of Basketball was planted. His first attempt at a simple ball-game was deemed a failure by the class members, so elements from Football, Rugby and even Lacrosse were added to give further pace to the new sport.

All the time the fledgling sport was evolving, Naismith was being scrutinised by the YMCA's higher echelons, who were worried about the time he was wasting developing it. However, with ball-play already determined, all that was needed now was to determine how each player could score 'goals'. Recalling a game he played in his youth, Naismith promptly decided upon a 'ring', into which the ball should be thrown. This decided, the sport grew slowly in popularity, changing gradually into the sport we know today.



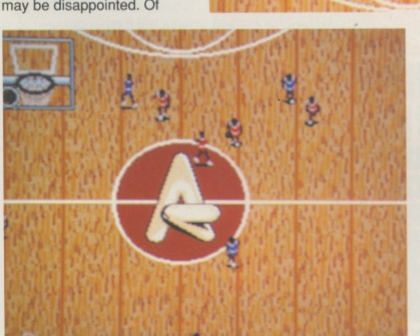




Fouls can be switched on or off, with penalties the result of hard tackles.







The players react intelligently to the direction they are facing and whether they're running when the user wants to shoot or pass. Even though the sprites resemble Gulliver's Lilliputtian pals, the players are superbly animated, and can play the ball between their legs, turn and shoot, dummy a pass, or throw the ball using an overarm lob.

Shots are simple to pull off with the player either pressing fire to throw the ball, or pulling back on the joystick during a run to launch a longshot. The accuracy of the shot is shown as a close-up of the ring with an indication of where the ball will hit. The more central the ball, the more likely the shot will go in.

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Using the same game system that made 'Captive' adventure game of the year for 1990, 'Knightmare' makes dungeons and dragons games seem like newts splashing around in a muddy puddle.

'Knightmare' is a sophisticated role-playing adventure where you are challenged to solve complex puzzles, logic problems and riddles that reveal a rich, ever-more rewarding storyline.

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MINDSCAPE

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A320

The majority of flight simulations have you whizzing around at excessive speeds blowing things up with your state-of-the-art war-plane. Now, from German-based Thalion, comes a 'proper' flight sim where you swap missiles for passengers and military fatigues for a pilot's cap.

As the Captain of a passenger plane, there's more to *Airbus* than just pulling the yoke and playing with the throttle. The first step on any journey is to plot the course, and to do this you need to input your destination, calculate how much fuel is required for the flight, and what route to take. However, before you even start the engines, calculations based on the cloud base, difference in air pressure and weather have to be entered to calibrate the plane's computer.

A320 oozes accuracy and Thalion claim that anyone who can pilot their computer version is ready for the real thing. Included in the package is a map featuring international low-altitude routes, approach coordinates, restricted air-space and flight routes. This reveals the complexity of the sim perfectly and the incredible detail it contains. Most of the controls are based around the mouse, but the keyboard comes into play for the engines and occasional navigation functions. Surprisingly, though, these simplify what could be a very difficult landing process.

Basically, *Airbus*'s action is limited to taking-off, landing and pointing the plane in the right direction. This may sound a bit harsh, but the real skill comes in navigating and working the flight details before you take-off. Navigating is a complicated process which requires locking onto a beacon and planning your course to avoid other flights, bad weather and mountains. Once this is mastered you can graduate from training mode and take on a plane load of passengers. However, during the dull areas of inactivity, Thalion have added a 'time skip' key which allows you to bypass the boring in-flight movies and other routines of uninterrupted flying.

The A320 handles extremely well for a passenger aircraft, but don't expect it to be as nippy as an F15; try to be flash in one of these and you'll wind up hitting the ground – fast. Additionally, because the plane takes a long time to respond, you'll have to think a few seconds ahead to make sure you







The graphics and animation for *A320 Airbus* are superb, especially the hazing effect of flying through banks of cloud.

straighten the aircraft. This is particularly true of making a landing, as last second corrections are vital. There's an instrument landing system (ILS) which must be used to find your glide-slope, but the last 30 seconds or so of an approach have to be done visually.

A series of well-designed screens lead you through the setting up of your flight, and the checking of the weather conditions. The cockpit layout is neat, with all the relevant instruments clearly displayed. Because the Airbus is a modern plane, most of the readouts are situated on a monitor, rather than a bank of dials which are usually common in commercial aircraft. This also comes across well in the computer version, although you can only input numbers through a fiddly on-screen numeric pad, which proves awkward to use.

In terms of presentation, the graphics and sound are simple, but very realistic. The engine effects consist of a few samples which change pitch according the how much throttle is being applied. Similarly, the graphics feature minimal and bland scenery, punctuated by the occasional special effect, such as the hazing when you go through a cloud, adding to the realism.

A320 Airbus is a very good simulation. It's both extremely detailed and accurate, but unless you're really into this kind of 'hard-core' sim, you could find the appeal wanes quickly. Had there been a disaster mode which caused the engines to cut-out, cabin pressure to drop or lightening to strike, the game would have much greater appeal. As it stands, though, this is most certainly the game for wannabe British Airways Pilots and realism freaks.

Mark Patterson

AIEEEE! WE'RE GOING TO DIE! **Anything can happen when you're trapped in a plane at 40,000 feet, or so American writers would have us believe. William Shatner, playing a priest, battled the Devil on a 747 in Terror at 30,000 Feet. After freeing several people from demonic possession, the evil one got the better of him, and a very crude cardboard cut-out of Shatner on a chromakey background was seen plummeting from the aircraft.**

Airport '80 – The Concorde was a disaster of a movie. Terror strikes a good-will flight to Russia for the 1980 Olympics. As the plane depressurises an arms dealer runs round destroying evidence that links him to dirty deeds. As a rule, if you board plane with a nun, a pregnant woman, an alcoholic doctor and a seedy looking man in a black roll-neck and glasses, you'd better get a ticket for the next flight, because these are the perfect ingredients for a disaster movie.

THALION £25.99

'High-flying simulation that's big on detail. . .'

GRAPHICS	79%
SOUND	80%
LASTABILITY	80%
PLAYABILITY	84%

OVERALL 81%

AIRBUS



It's quite refreshing to get behind the joystick of a civilian aircraft after having battled the Hun in *Knights of the Sky*, flown a Soviet fighter in *MiG29*, and taken on the 'Other Side' in *F15-II*. And if you thought that lot were complicated, just wait until you fly this baby!



WWF



The comprehensive fighter-select screen at the start of the game.

Wrestling is something that we in this country find hard to appreciate. Oversized baldies in cheap makeshift togas tussle each other to the floor whilst old grannies wave umbrellas and throw rolled-up bits of newspaper into a ply-board ring. However, in America. it's a totally different story. Beer bellies are replaced by finely-toned gargantuan physiques, and the pensioners fight for ringside seats with adults and children who sport their latest hero's face on placards, T-shirts and moulded rubber masks. Yes, WWF is big business. And so, as most things do these days, Wrestlemania has crossed the Atlantic and become the latest craze on our shores. Ocean's game takes the most popular characters from the Federation and separates them into good guys and bad boys. Naturally your choice of characters is made from the former category.

With each hero comes an individual set of moves and statistics. Weight, birthday, favourite sayings and best move are all listed, and all that's missing are their star signs. The first wrestler is Hulk Hogan, the definitive WWF star, who just loves to tell you that he has the biggest arms in the world and that very soon they're going to be squeezing the excrement out of you. British Bulldog is less outspoken, but no less outrageous, and his special move has his opponent scooped-up and power-slammed to the canvas. The last choice of wrestler is The Ultimate Warrior, who looks like an ex-member of rock band KISS. He likes nothing better than to cuddle up close for the Gorilla Press.

The game has two modes: Competition and Practise. The latter is vital for learning all the joystick and fire button combinations. Although



The large sprites are surprisingly well-animated, and the moves are smooth and easy to access and pull-off.

IT'S SHOWTIME

Some effort has been made to recreate the kind of atmosphere these bouts evoke in the States. At the beginning, overhead views of the ring and remote-controlled spot lights scan the audience and flick over the arena. The wrestlers are then introduced and have a slight slanging match in which you are offered a choice of responses. The audience cheer and the big fight eventually begins.





After the pre-match hype, the talking stops and the action begins with each wrestler leaving their corner. The first one to grapple their opponent to the floor wins.

WWF is billed as a two-player game this is only possible in Practise mode and only one of you, the good guy, can choose the character to use – the opponent will always be Mr Perfect. Get used to the large sprites, develop some good combinations and fighting tactics, and then take on the first of the five pro grapplers: Mr Perfect, Warlord, Million Dollar Man, The Mounty and Sgt. Slaughter.

During the five minute contest the aim is simply to reduce the opponent's energy bar by knocking the hell out of him, get him on the canvas and hold him there. Sooner or later you're going to get in a clinch, a stand off where both of you grimace face-to-face, straining to go one way or the other. The only way out is to waggle your joystick from left to right faster than the opposition, picking him up and hurling him across the ring. And there's action outside the ropes, too – there's always a handy chair to smack over someone's head. Apart from this there's nothing more to it. Not bad fun for those young enough to think the real thing's authentic, but it becomes a touch tedious for the rest of us.

Steve Keen

OCEAN/TWILIGHT £25.99

"Fun but limited game for young 'uns only. . . "

GRAPHICS	75%
SOUND	65%
LASTABILITY	69%
PLAYABILITY	78%

OVERALL 76%

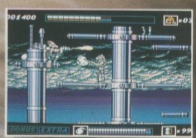
WOLFCHILD













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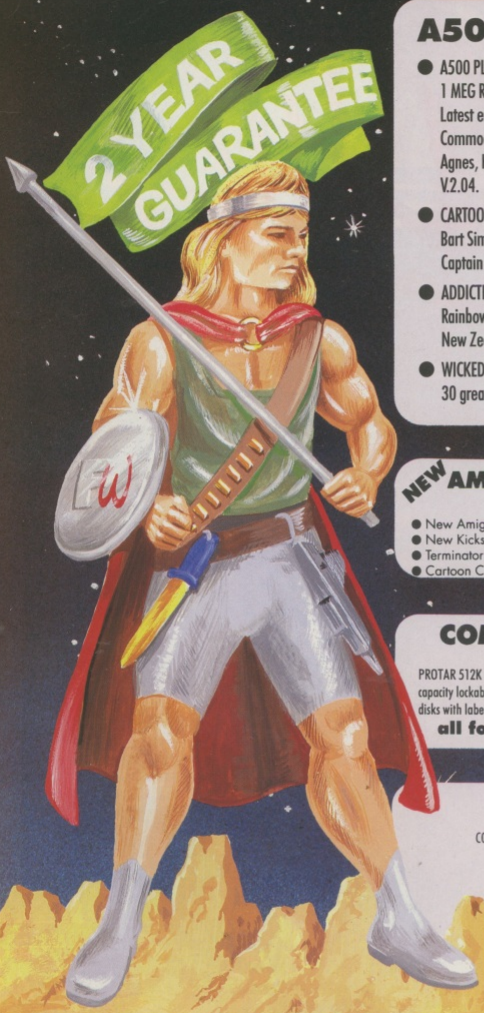
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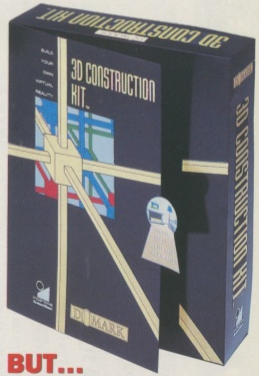
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BUT…
WE PREFER TO LET THE PRODUCT



CU AMIGA SCREENSTAR

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

Science fiction games have traditionally concerned themselves with interstellar conflict, and Mindcraft's *Rules of Engagement* is no exception. By the 24th century, the Federated Worlds have grown, expanding through known space, and are now meeting hostile resistance from a mish-mash of alien races and rebel forces. Sound familiar? Apart from being a scenario uncomfortably close to a multitude of other sci-fi games, *ROE* draws from Star Trek for most of its inspiration. Having failed the test for originality, does *ROE* have what it takes to be a valid contribution to your games collection?

On opening the box, the thick wad of rules can be found. To be fair, the rulebook is laid out in a linear fashion, and the first chapter is a very helpful warm-up tutorial.

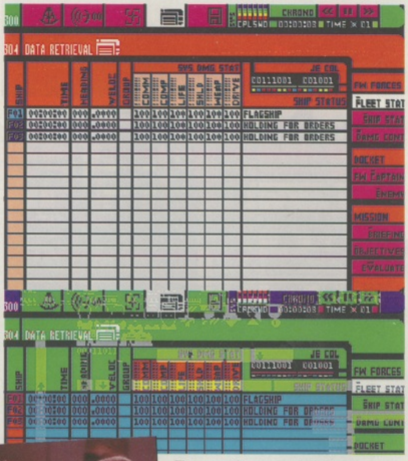
Once into the game, its sophistication and depth become apparent. A series of menus and selection screens guide the player through the myriad choices and decisions required of a Fleet Commander. Send an order and the subordinate commander receives and acts upon it some time later. Some captains even choose to ignore commands; this realistically illustrates the 'fog of war' problems faced by commanders.

The dull graphics may turn away many cynical players, and it's true that they have all the visual splendour of an amateur drama production, but with so much information to supply it's hard to see how else they could look. A control panel at the top of the screen uses icons to accesses sub-menus, and everything is entirely mouse-driven.

It doesn't take long to learn the system, although keeping track of all the variables can be a pig. As mentioned, multi-ship operations are the trickiest – it's hard enough putting your own ship through its paces, let alone three others. Likewise, everything moves in real time, so there are few opportunities to sit back and relax, except when your armada is en route to an enemy location. Combat is a very complicated business with both ships blasting, circling and trying to hammer down the enemy's shields for a killing blow. At times like these, it's best to put trust in your captains and leave them to their own devices.

Trekkies will be glad to know that nearly all the sound effects in the game have been inspired by Star Trek. Communicating with other ships causes a whistling sound to make Spock proud, and firing the Enhanced Beam Weapons will bring a tear to the eye of any Roddenberry fan.

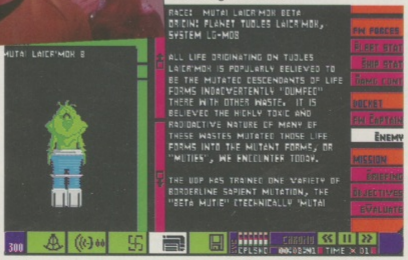
But the game is just too complex. During combat, manouevring, fighting and defending are too demanding, forcing the player to concentrate on one instead of all three simultaneously.





The array of menus and charts may not be visually exciting, but manages to provide a great deal of information in a small space.

Below: **It's worthwile checking out the opposition, because some races fight with certain styles – giving you that extra edge in combat.**



...has been devised that allows the user to produce a fully fledged 3D environment...90%." AMIGA ACTION

...that gives us the *freedom* to produce whatever we want... up until now, no tool

THE PRODUCT SPEAK FOR ITSELF

RULES OF
ENGAGEMENT

The combat movements are similarly tricky. 'Halt' is a waste of time until the opponent is rendered harmless, and 'Position', while providing the good guys with plenty of chances to fire, unfortunately does the same for the enemy. 'Shadow' keeps you relatively out of harm's way, but trying to get a fix on the enemy is slippery work indeed.

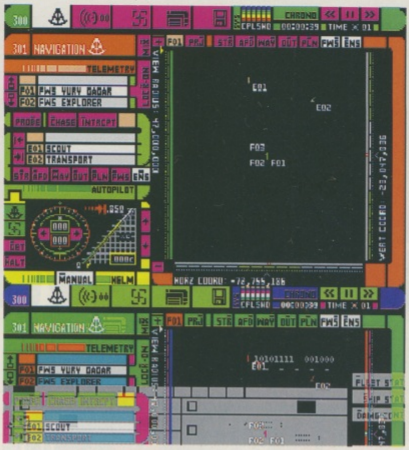
The missions are helpfully classified according to difficulty, and strategy tips are included for good measure. Apart from the obvious ship combat, patrols and outpost assault have been included – the latter being especially enticing with the IGS link. A full mission creation facility adds to the already impressive long-term appeal of the game, and it's a shame that there's no facility to link two Amigas and battle it out with a human opponent. Despite this, the emphasis is on running succesful campaigns, nursing your alter ego through the

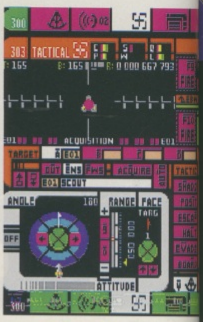


scenarios whilst gaining promotions and decorations – and with three difficulty levels and 21 scenarios, I defy anyone to finish this quickly. . .

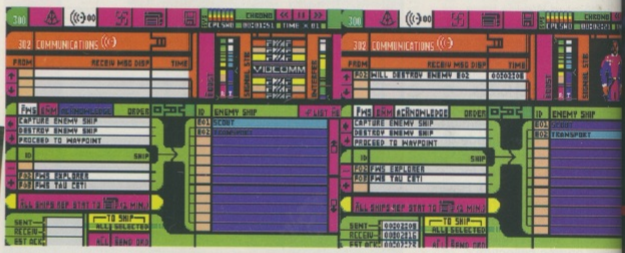
I was happily surprised by *Rules of Engagement*. So many space combat games of late – such as *Starflight II* and SSI's *Renegade Legion Interceptor* – have been disappointing that it's a pleasant change to find a good example of the genre. The graphics may be discouraging, but they give the player exactly what he or she needs to get stuck into the game. Nevertheless, I wouldn't recommend this to novices or those who like simple-minded blasts, but for those who are hungry for a slick and playable space combat simulator, this is easily the best around.

Matt Regan





Above: The combat screen. The target's locked, but is still outside effective range. The navigation screen (*left*) shows the relative positions of the space craft before closing to fight, while (*below*) orders are issued to the rest of the fleet.





The game draws its approach from Star Trek, but adds some great touches that put it in a class of its own. The commander above, in control of FWS Explorer, tends to follow orders accurately, but you can't rely on all your subordinates to this extent – I guarantee you'll tear out your hair the first time someone uses their 'initiative' during a fight and scarpers!

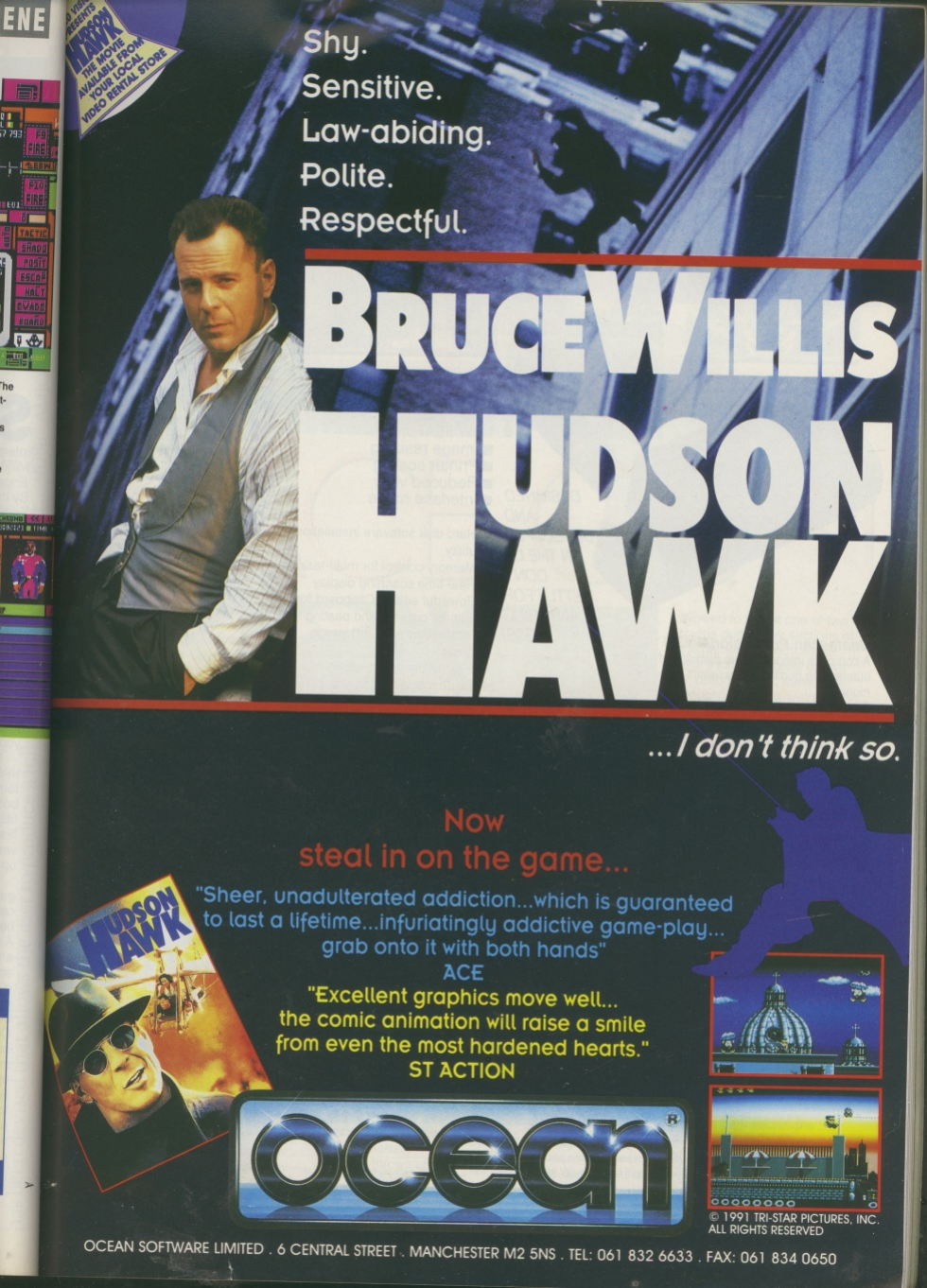
ONCE MORE INTO THE BREACH Boarding actions in *ROE* are handled by the computer, which controls the two sides and informs the player of the result. There's little the player can do to influence the outcome except for using experienced troops for the battle. However, *ROE* is part of the Interlocking Games System (or IGS for short) , which means that owners of *Breach 2* from Impressions can make troop combat far more exciting. When troops enter an enemy vessel or outpost, the game loads in *Breach* scenarios, allowing full control over every squad member.

MIND CRAFT/EA £25.99

"An in-depth sci-fi game with huge potential"

GRAPHICS	82%
SOUND	73%
LASTABILITY	90%
PLAYABILITY	84%

OVERALL 87%


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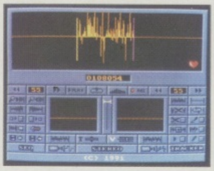
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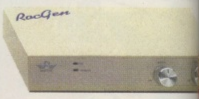
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CU AMIGA SCREENSTAR



The Aliens take the form of massive multi-limbed reptiles and insects and require several shots before their limbs fly off.

SPACE GUN

After the formula worked so well in *Beast Busters*, Ocean's conversion of Taito's *Space Gun* once again uses the same mix of the horror genre and the ever-popular *Operation Thunderbolt* game-style. Thus, in a scenario straight out of James Cameron's Aliens, the player is left to wander the apparently-empty corridors of a dark base in search of numerous trapped hostages, armed only with a pulse laser and a limited supply of grenades. Whilst the gameplay offered nothing new, though, the *Space Gun* coin-op simply oozed atmosphere, and this conversion recreates it perfectly with ominous heartbeats and eerie squeals following every movement.



Busters' veteran, Henry Clark's conversion features all the gruesome explosions and strange creatures that graced the coin-op, along with other new features the machine introduced. For instance, whereas *Operation Thunderbolt* and its many clones force the player to follow a set route, *Space Gun* occasionally throws up a choice, with the player allowed to select one of two routes during key sections of the game. One noticeable loss from the arcade parent is, unfortunately, inevitable, though. Whereas we're all used to seeing Uzis stuck on to the front of game cabinets, the *Space Gun* machine housed two futuristic rifles which sported an impressive pump action to load in your many freeze grenades, smart bombs and fireballs. On the Amiga this has given way to the right mouse button which, whilst it is every bit as effective, just isn't the same somehow. However, to give Ocean and Images their due, they have made the game compatible with Trojan's Light Gun, adding to the fun immensely – somewhat surprisingly, it also proves to be very accurate, too.



Extra weapons can be collected by shooting the game's many crates and then blasting the required item.



Having selected a one or two-player game, the game opens with the player moving slowly into the shadowy corridors ahead. As can be expected, this is typical *Op Thunderbolt* territory, except that the dark secretions the Aliens have left on the walls and the general feeling of gloom that the graphics and sound give, raise the game above even *Beast Busters* in

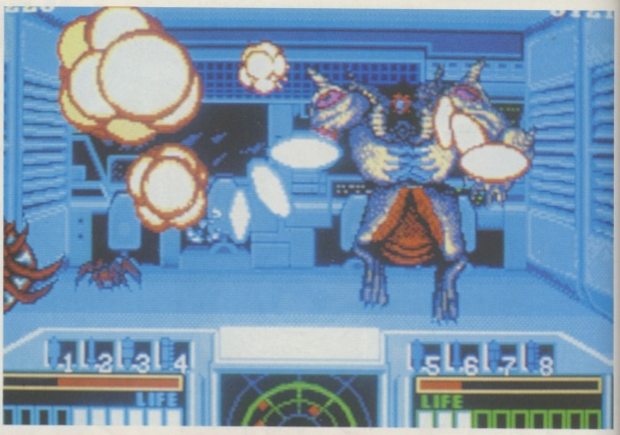
SPACE GUN

terms of atmosphere.

With the mouse guiding your cross-hair, the game's many aliens start to appear from the distance, and pressing the left mouse button sends a stream of laserfire towards them. These nasties range from the expected facehugger clones to a variety of multi-armed reptiles and ant-like creatures. Contact with these saps your already-limited health – represented by a set of red, dripping claw marks across the screen – so they must be shot before getting too close. However, as the game progresses, they get harder to kill and care must be taken not to wound any of the hostages within a level.

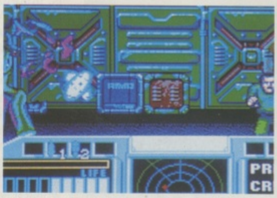
Each level winds its way through a separate section of the base, past multi-floored decks – complete with gaping acid holes in the floor – and eventually to the escape shuttle which represents the end of the game. However, should all the hostages within a level be wiped out or your energy and credits fully depleted, your mission will be prematurely ended. Likewise, in the final battle within the shuttle, if too many of your shots slam into the ship's cockpit, the craft will be rendered unusable and your mission deemed a failure. *Gun*'s levels scroll smoothly in the four compass directions as you pad through the base, and the graphics change accordingly as you get nearer the heart of the Aliens' lair. Also, blocking your exit to the next area are a series of larger mutants who, in time-honoured fashion, must be shot repeatedly until they eventually explode. Graphically, though, these guardians are nothing short of stunning, with huge tentacled creatures dominating the screen or legions of smaller creatures making an appearance – brilliant stuff.

Although there are only a few additions to the tried and tested game-style, at least *Space Gun* offers fast and uncompromising gameplay.



Occasionally, as a hostage runs towards you he mutates into an alien – so be prepared.

THE SQUEAL THING *Space Gun*'s sound is simple but very effective, with a thumping heartbeat and numerous sampled Alien squeals accompanying the action. As the player gets closer to the guardian, the heartbeat starts to speed up, and whenever the player concedes a hit a loud groan signals the loss of energy. Plus, whenever an Alien egg or a breakable object is hit, there is a loud splat or crashing noise. The game's sound was handled by Images' veteran, Matt Simmons, who sampled the effects from the coin-op before reproducing them using *Noisetracker* on the Amiga. Bearing in mind how well they add to the atmosphere, it is even more surprising to learn that they take up less than 50K of the complete code.





Everything from the coin-op is there – including the brilliant scene-setting intro.



As the aliens attack, their energy-sapping hits are represented as bites and scratches on screen. You begin the game with a series of lives, the length of which are determined by energy bars.

The attention to detail adds a certain edge over others in the genre, with plasti-glass doors shattering, and humans mutating into Aliens whilst others scurry across the ceiling. One fault I will levy, though, is that the action doesn't vary a great deal, but the continuous changing of the backdrops (which includes a jeep ride across the planet's surface) and the multitude of new Aliens ensures that it will keep your interest. I am a major fan of the coin-op, and this is the best conversion anyone could possibly have hoped for. Very few details have been lost considering the Amiga's relatively-low specifications compared to the arcade game, and this makes for a solid – if unoriginal – shoot 'em up.

Steve Merrett

OCEAN £24.95

'A good conversion of an excellent coin-op'

GRAPHICS	85%
SOUND	90%
LASTABILITY	78%
PLAYABILITY	84%

OVERALL 84%



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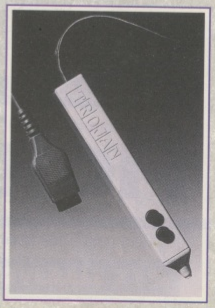
The pen provides an instinctive and very direct method of control for users of all ages, takes up no desk space and is completely maintenance free.

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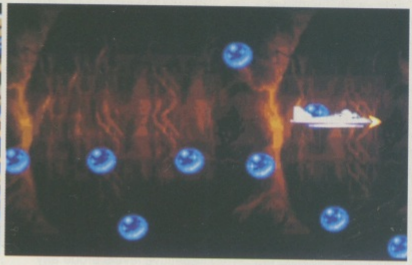
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FANTASTIC VOYAGE





If the name of Centaur Software's new shoot 'em up sounds familar, that's because it's based on the Academy Award-winning film of the same name. Made in 1966, Fantastic Voyage starred Stephen Boyd, Raquel Welch and Donald Pleasance in a battle against time to save a dying scientist. In true Cold War-style, the defecting professor had been badly hurt in an assassination attempt by the 'other side' (ie the commies). Suffering serious brain damage, the dying man is vitally important to secret tests being carried out into miniaturisation, and the powers-that-be decide to shrink a mini-sub and its crew to microscopic size and inject them into the man's circulatory system to destroy the clot in his brain.

Such B-movie pretentions were at odds with the film's lavish special effects, which won the movie an Oscar. Much the same can be said of the game. Although the graphics are superb, the actual gameplay is pedestrian and uncreative. The scenario follows the film almost to the letter. The game begins in an artery near the neck of the patient. Controlling the submarine, Proteus, you have to guide the miniature vessel through the maze-like byways of the human body, avoiding antibody cells and other defence systems, in an attempt to reach the brain and destroy the blood clot with a laser. Along the way, nine pieces of a circuit board have to be recovered in order to operate the laser, as well as fuel and oxygen pods to keep Proteus operational. Failure to do so will result in either the ship exploding or its occupants turning a very dark shade of blue!



The push-scrolling technique used in the game is a little off-putting at first, especially as it's difficult to see what's coming up next.

There are three difficulty levels to choose from (Beginner, Advanced or Pro) and these determine how many hits the Proteus can sustain. Starting with three lives, with two continues for added longevity, the ship can move in eight different directions via the joystick.

In all, there are three huge levels to navigate, all made up of intricate passageways through the human body. The first involves what look like massive flying marshmallows which, I'm reliably informed, are antibodies, together with cancer cells and other miscreant nasties. Most of these have been based on electron microscope photographs of the interiors of blood vessels and cells, although some are obvious flights of fancy, especially when they start shooting back. Level two is even more bizarre featuring organisms based upon 'tracks created in the bubble chamber of particle accelerators when they are subjected to beams of sub-atomic particles'. Sure guys, but they still look like marshmallows to me! After collecting all the microchips and completing the last level, it's off to fry the blood clot and complete the mission.

Graphically, *Fantastic Voyage* is superb. The area immediately surrounding the vessel is illuminated with the rest of the screen masked in varying degrees of darkness. The programmers have also used the effect first seen in *Battle Squadron*, which distorts certain parts of the screen and causes a liquid-like ripple . Here it's used to brilliant effect and at times it almost seems that you are indeed piloting a ship down a human artery. Despite the flashy graphics, there's no hiding the fact that the gameplay is a bit 'tired' – the ship moves at a snail's pace and it's easy to avoid the on-coming bio-slugs and attack waves. To some extent this is excusable as the variety of bio-beasts on the loose is superb; it's just a pity that the overall design is a bit sloppy. The film set the medical crew a time limit of sixty minutes to complete their mission before they grew back to real size. A similar time element introduced in the game would have given a certain urgency to the proceedings, but as it stands, there's nothing here to set the pulse racing.

Dan Slingsby

SOUNDING OFF **The sound effects are disappointing and sound almost 'tinny'. The metallic thud of the laser fire as it crashes into the surrounding caverns isn't exactly how I would have imagined it to sound. However, the music option is extremely atmospheric, consisting of a cacophony of swirling electronic noises strung together with a psychedelic wall of sound. And it lasts for an impressive 23 minutes before looping.**

CENTAUR/DMI £25.99

'Graphically-superior slice and dice 'em up'

GRAPHICS	90%
SOUND	89%
LASTABILITY	60%
PLAYABILITY	69%

OVERALL 71%

CARDIAXX

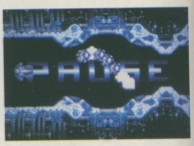
Whilst everyone wants their shoot 'em ups to be fast, *Cardiaxx* goes from the sublime to the Cor Blimey! It is obvious from the minimal gameplay that Electronic Zoo have seen how fast the Amiga can scroll and based a game around it. The result is a frenetic and relatively playable blast which, sadly, doesn't contain enough meat to keep the player interested. A variant on the *Armalyte* theme, *Cardiaxx* pits the player against the might of the Cardiaxx empire within a two-way-scrolling play area. Within this area a series of alien attack waves and guardians appear and these must be taken out before the ever-decreasing time-limit expires. And that, dear reader, is *Cardiaxx*.

The game is split into four areas, within which the player must exercise their trigger finger and reflexes, whilst leaving their brain in neutral. These levels, despite the addition of bas-relief or organic backdrops, are pretty much alike with the player destroying one wave of Cardiaxx fighters before using their on-screen indicator to locate the next. I have a feeling that Electronic Zoo were hoping that the nail-biting speed of the game would trick the player into ignoring the lack of variety, but it actually has the opposite effect. Providing that the player survives the almost inevitable energy-sapping collisions with the enemy, they eventually reach a pair of guardians (who remain the same throughout the game – whatever happened to variety?) and who block access to the next level. Following a short space-bound sequence, the next level is then entered.

Like so many games from the shoot 'em up genre, *Cardiaxx* is initially very playable, and the urge to have another crack is akin to all those 8-bit games we so fondly remember. However, once the first level has been beaten and the ensuing space scene passed, the repetitive levels erode any further interest. If larger space bases or extra background detail was added, perhaps this would have helped, but I suspect that this would have slowed it down considerably. As a budget release, I would have no hesitation in recommending *Cardiaxx* as it is perfectly suited for the odd blast whenever the need to do some damage arises. Unfortunately, as it stands, twenty-six quid is too much to pay for such limited carnage.

Steve Merrett

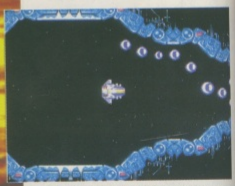




As the alien droves make an appearance, digitised speech informs you whether they are to the left or the right.

FAST'N'FURIOUS **Creating a good balance between speed and longevity within the limitations of the shoot 'em up is extremely tricky. With *Cardiaxx*, it is only the lack of variety that causes the problems and, to date, only a few blasters have bridged the gap. The C64 was choc-a-bloc with top-notch shoot 'em ups, with Andrew Braybrook's *Uridium* and Cyberdyne Systems' *Armalyte* regarded as true classics. Thus, with the Amiga's faster processing speed and far superior capabilities, surely we should be up to our necks in speedy blasters? Nope. The problem apparently lies with shifting backdrops and numerous sprites at speed, as even the Amiga has problems doing that. Thus, it is far easier to slow the games down and concentrate on the game's look rather than opt for a sparse but fast game. However, this is by no means a bad thing as past hits such as *Z-Out* and *Denaris* prove.**





Identical end-of-level guardians appear throughout the game.

ELECTRONIC ZOO £25.95

"Thinner in content than Paul Daniel's scalp ..."

GRAPHICS	72%
SOUND	79%
LASTABILITY	41%
PLAYABILITY	80%

OVERALL 63%

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CELTIC LEGENDS

Hidden somewhere in the instructions for *Celtic Legends* and the usual mystical tosh about long-forgotten kingdoms, unicorns and dyslexic dwarves is a highly playable slice of strategic combat gaming.

The scenario for this French-programmed game revolves around two wizards, Sogrom and Eskel, involved in a titanic battle for power after the demise of the world of Celtica's original ruler. It is a classic case of good against evil, with the winner taking all the spoils. The conflict is set on the island archipeligo of Rochebrume. There's a choice of two islands to wage your campaign on, each of which is divided up into hexagonal grids and which act as 'playing squares'. In fact, as *Celtic Legends* unfolds, it has much in common with board games like chess and, less abstractly, Risk as it does with role-playing.

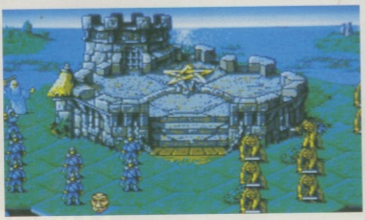


The action takes place across two screens: one for the strategy element of the game, the other for the tactics or action. Having chosen an island to fight on, you move to the strategy screen. This is divided up into a small window depicting the island, and a larger magnification of the area you are concentrating on. Each wizard begins with a finite number of legions composed of creatures with a variety of combat power. These can be split or moved whole around the playing area. Each move costs a number of points, limiting the amount of ground you can cover with heavy units using more points. It is possible to construct castles from the strategy screen, but these cost magic points and



The play area is split into a series of squares, within which the characters move. Each move within these costs the player a number of points, thus limiting your options if spells are to be cast.

The moves are effected from a special selection window and, from here, the player can designate where to put their magicians and soldiers for optimum effect.





magic points are the key to *Celtic Legends*, as they determine the power of each particular wizard.

Each player has a turn on the strategy screen, moving his units into positions of strategic power and challenging the opposing army as it attempts to build up power and control the island. When you're satisfied that you've set your strategy you wait for the other player or the computer to make their move. This generally results in a small or large scale conflict, taking you to the area of combat and putting up the tactical screen.

Legions are composed of foot soldiers, dragons, cyclops and magicians. Each has a certain amount of strength and stamina in battle when it comes down to straight hand-to-hand combat, but the best approach is to use magic to overcome the opposition, saving your troop strength and protecting your key players. Both magicians and troops are limited by a number of factors displayed down the left-hand side of the screen. Hit points simply determine your ability to carry on; magic level denotes just how many spells you can use; experience shows your level of experience which, as it increases, boosts you spell knowledge; action points denote the number of actions possible each turn; strength shows the amount of damage you can inflict with a blow and dexterity shows just how good your chances of hitting the target are – this is particular crucial in spell casting because wasted spells mean wasted opportunities.

Pentangles situated on the islands allow you to create new characters, while the game can be thrown randomly when savages on the island attack either side without warning.

Celtic Legends is an entertaining slice of fantasy combat, that combines some nice animation, action sequences and sound effects with a serious amount of strategy. Each of the characters is readily identifiable and the islands are given character and variety with mounds, castles, swamps, and trees. The only reservation which exists about it is that its role-playing element is restricted. If you compare it to some top-of-the-range D&D games you get the interaction and the exploration combined in the package. There again if you only ever play them for the combat then *Celtic Legends* has more than enough depth and variety to keep you going.

Mike Pattenden

SPELL CASTING **There are some 15 spells which come into use during the game. These grow as you gain experience and accrue magic points. Since each spell cast costs points you have to budget your actions accordingly. At the lower end there are simple spells like fireballs which only cost five points, but the stakes rise as you begin to cast spells like contagion (which sends one of your units over to the opposition carrying a deadly plague), or lightning which zaps them with a particularly effective bolt from the blue. Other spells allow you to heal your own men or teleport out of trouble. Some of the spells can be blocked by natural objects in their path so it pays to manoeuvre the enemy so you have a clear 'shot' for something like a fireball.**

UBI SOFT £30.99

"Involved strategy game owing a debt to Risk"

GRAPHICS	78%
SOUND	79%
LASTABILITY	81%
PLAYABILITY	82%

OVERALL 80%



Your magic level is essential to success, and the more power you have, the more devastating any spells cast will be – be careful not to waste your limited power, though.



SPELL CHECK

FIREBALL Effective at its cost (five magic points) but only useful against weaker opponents. A clear shot is necessary.
CLUMSINESS Reduces opponents' skill in combat.
WEAKNESS Weakens the victim, diminishing the damage he can inflict. In large doses it will cause death.
INEXPERIENCE Causes the object to lose all experience it has learned in previous battles – particularly effective on magicians.
FORGETFULNESS The victim totally forgets all his magical knowledge.
VICIOUSNESS The victim suffers from a violent illness, losing combat points every turn.
CONTAGIOUSNESS A virus that can be passed on to the opponent's entire army, depleting them of their strength.
INVISIBILITY Subtracts time from enemy attacks since they can't locate you to attack.
CARE Allows you to heal sick or wounded units.
VAMPIRISATION Sucks the victim's energy, but only to be directed at warm-blooded adversaries.
PARALYSIS Stops the victim from moving, making it easy prey.
DETECTION Allows you to identify anybody afflicted with a contagious illness allowing you to send them to infect the opposition or cure them.
LIGHTNING A highly destructive bolt of energy. Two are fatal to any creature no matter how strong.
DIVINE IRE Very costly but highly effective against large enemy groups, subtracting 15 points from each.
FATAL FIRE The ultimate spell – instantly killing anyone in its path.



Pentangles are dotted throughout the islands, and allow the player to create new characters.

REALMS



Not that long ago, some bright spark thought it would be a good idea to give players the illusion of having great power over their weedy sprites. The first batch of these so-called 'God Sims', *Populous* and *SimCity*, became two of the most successful computer games ever created. Publishers are keen to jump on the bandwagon, and so we've seen a recent spate sequels. *Realms* is the latest but does it add anything to this over-crowded genre?

'*Realms* is more than a mere 'God Sim' or wargame,' proclaims Virgin Games at the beginning of the manual, '*Realms* is a fully-functioning fantasy world'.

An impressive series of animated screens skillfully create a sullen mood at the start of play. It's the old story of famine, poverty, war and a new king itching to prove himself. No bonus score for guessing who you take the role of. It's your job to balance the budget, give the peasants plenty of food and weapons, and make sure your butt remains intact during a battle. The twist is that you're lording over a fantasy land populated by the likes of Orcs, Elves, Dwarves, Barbarians, Vikings and Amazons. Orcs hate Elves more than Dwarves, so watch your back when going for quick alliances! There's always an enemy lurking somewhere nearby and the task ahead is to crush them without mercy and win overall control of the realm.

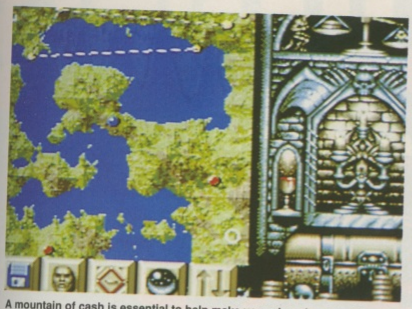


Your citizens are totally loyal to your cause. So hit 'em where it hurts – in their wallet.

THE BRAINTREE BOYS So much for those tacky Essex Man and Girl gags, this is the place that spawned hardcore dance music raves from The Prodigy and some of the best known computer games in the mid-eighties. Steve Turner and Andrew Braybrook, partners in code, have an extensive list of hits on the old Spectrum and C64 to their credit including *3D Lunattack*, *Avalon*, *Gribbly's Day Out*, *Paradroid* and *Uridium*. More recently, the dynamic duo have produced the appealing *Rainbow Islands* and *Simulcra*. Their latest effort is a brave attempt to relive former glories. Sadly, *Realms* doesn't quite manage to pull it off.

Software development team Graftgold has supplied eight scenarios with the game, although there's no reason why these couldn't be expanded via datadisks in the future. This product is very much like *Powermonger* from Bullfrog/EA, except there are less icons and nit-picky details to worry about. Both games are played in real-time and a mistake can turn into a masterstroke in a matter of seconds, providing you don't panic. The big difference between the two is that *Realms* lets you control vast cities of plebs and is on a much grander scale than *Powermonger*.

Once you've selected a crippling tax rate and seen the overall state of your nation on the World Map, you can drop into an isometric 3D world. It's possible to scroll across the land in four directions to view all the armies, settlements, grasslands, deserts, water and



A mountain of cash is essential to help make your plans for global domination run smoothly. Without it you'll find your army soon deserts.

forests lying around. Graphically, *Realms* is beautiful. You can't zoom or rotate the landscape as in *Powermonger*, but at least this screen is updated in a much quicker fashion. Some of the fractal maps have been constructed from nearly 200 polygons and look superb.

A single man can represent up to one thousand troops. Friends are distinguished from foes by the colour of their flags. Yellow is your colour, the enemy is dressed in red and waverers denoted by blue. There are sound effects for major events and the crystal ball on the bottom left-hand corner of the screen will flicker into life. Clicking on this will reveal a brief description of what's happened.

It's in the cities and towns where crucial decisions are made. If the settlement is big, you can recruit some soldiers. Groups can be armed depending on your cash flow. And watch out for poor morale. A few coins in their greedy hands should appease them. Money really does make the world go around. . . without it, you won't be able to buy grain to feed the hungry hordes, build stone walls to protect them or pay your armies to extend your empire. When push comes to shove, you'll also require lots of cash to take care of life's little worries like outbreaks of plague and rebuilding razed cities.

One little tip: Always keep approximately one assignment of foot soldiers or cavalry outside every city under your control. It keeps the occupants from getting out of line.

The real fun begins when the crystal ball shows a pair of swords. This lets you know that a full-scale battle is about to commence. If you activate it, the display changes to a more classic computer representation of a wargame until the battle is won or lost. Individual units can be positioned into place and perform a combination of attack or defensive actions. Flags at either side of the battlefield provide you with a clue to the morale of both forces. Ultimately, the idea is to field more troops than your opponent – but blind luck or a cunning strategy can swing the tide your way. There's nothing more satisfying than to see the enemy take flight and retreat off the screen.

The battle sequence could have been expanded. It's the best part of *Realms* but doesn't go far enough. Perhaps the designers could have placed more powerful creatures in the armies to help balance an unfair situation and add a bit of spice? There were many times when I could have used the aid of a fire-breathing Dragon or a tough legion of Trolls to sort the opposition out. And why is sieging a city so boring? Where are the massive mobile wooden tower things you always see soldiers using to smash fortifications in the movies? I suppose expanding the game further would have caused the introduction of irritating disk-swapping. Oh, I didn't like the annoying tune that constantly plays in the background, either.

Powermonger and *Mega-lo-Mania* are tough acts to follow and *Realms* isn't as exciting as either of these epics. Not that this Graftgold game doesn't have its gripping moments, it's just there are too few of them. This omnipotent outing has somewhat missed the boat, especially with the imminent launch of *Populous II* – the almighty 'Zeus of God Sims'! Then again, players who couldn't handle the complexities of *Powermonger* should definitely give it a go.

Rik Haynes

FROM THE DEEPEST PITS OF UTUMNO

According to fantasy novelist supremo JRR Tolkien, Melkor tortured many Elven folk in his dark dungeons thereby transforming them into the horrific race of Orcs during the First Age of the Stars. These loathsome red-eyed slaves, twisted by pain and hate, were solely created to satisfy Melkor's evil curiosity and to do his bidding. Although they were fierce and deadly warriors, Orcs often resorted to cannibalism and feared the light. Huge armies of Orcs went on the rampage throughout Middle Earth until a final battle before the Black Gate of Morannon. After Sauron's One Ring was destroyed at Mount Doom, their numbers and power dwindled until Orcs merely became know as mischievous Goblins. If you want to find out more, try reading The Hobbit, Lord of the Rings or The Silmarillion.





Each army is made up of a number of units These can be moved about the land by a simple point-and-click system. When equipping your armies, you've got to remember each race's strengths and weaknesses. A dwarf with a bow and heavy shield is no use to anyone.





***Realms* mixes complex strategy wargaming with an arcade-like feel.**



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GRAPHICS	84%
SOUND	76%
LASTABILITY	61%
PLAYABILITY	88%

OVERALL 79%

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EXODUS 3010

Combining elements of *Deuteros* and *Elite*, Demonware's latest offering is a strange hybrid of gaming syles which puts you in control of a huge intergalactic spaceship.

The human race has fled the solar system and is desperately seeking a new safe haven. As commander of the Starlight, a gigantic vessel with more than three million cryogenically frozen civilians on board, it's up to you to guide the ship to its new destination. An alien presence has been detected and its a race against time to ready the ship's defences and save the day!

The game uses a simple point-and-click icon-driven interface which is easy to use, but allows quite complex commands to be handed out. There are approximately 100 missions to complete, ranging from picking up stray meteorites for their valuable ore



content to intergalactic dogfights against a squadron of alien attack craft. To help you in your task, it's possible to 'defrost' a number of crack pilots from their sleep-like state and boost their aggression and piloting prowess by tinkering with their inate abilities.

Once you've assembled your crew, you need to prepare some ships and equip them with whatever might be necessary, such as laser batteries, force fields or photon missiles. Unfortunately, in an effort to save space, the mothership is only stocked with raw materials, so any armaments or equipment have to be specially ordered. It can take time to fulfill some orders, especially when there's a lack of certain materials, so it's best to plan ahead.

As the game progresses, you'll come into contact with friendly traders, war-like races and other intergalactic travellers. Each time combat takes place, pilots grow in experience and ability, and trading can provide valuable new materials for constructing bigger and better armaments.

The strategic flavour of the game is complemented by a 3D shoot 'em up section. Once a ship is sent into space, a player can chose to either let the computer control the action or opt to take manual control. Why Demonware felt the need for such an arcade sequence is beyond me – it just seems so out of place with the rest of the game.

Overall, I can't find much to fault with *Exodus 3010*. Conversely, I can't find much to commend it, either. The linear progression of missions restricts the freedom to explore the universe which *Elite* offered, and locks the player into performing some incredibly drab missions before undertaking some of the more dangerous ones in the later stages of the game. There is a game in there somewhere, but it's hidden beneath an impenetrable layer of tedious and routine chores.

Dan Slingsby

DEMONWARE £25.99

"Plodding space trade and exploration game"

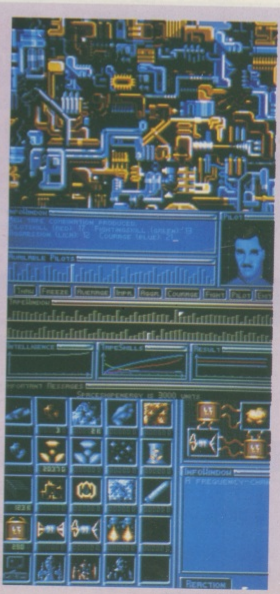
GRAPHICS	84%
SOUND	55%
LASTABILITY	72%
PLAYABILITY	68%

OVERALL 69%



Above: The 3D shoot 'em up section lets you blast anything that moves, but looks out of place when compared to the rest of the game.

There's certainly a lot to do in *Exodus*. Unfortunately, the majority of a player's time is taken up by routine missions.



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DEATH BRINGER

Karn the Barbarian must be destroyed, so a pact has been devised: persuade a demon called Abaddon to transform himself into a magic sword called Deathbringer. In return Abaddon may take the souls of his victims. But, by an uncanny twist of fate, the weapon falls into Karn's own hands as he sets out to rid the world of the wizard's menace.

Looking at the screen shots you could be forgiven for thinking that this is the best game since you paid £45 for *Dragon's Lair*. However I don't think I've been more frustrated with gameplay since Des Walker scored an own goal in the semi-final of the World Cup.

There are 36 levels of parallax scrolling spread over the 30 interconnecting levels. Karn's adventures take him across icy wastes, underground caverns, dense forests and other extremely detailed backdrops. The idea behind this is to satisfy the sword's ever increasing appetite for souls. The more people killed the more power gained – and if you don't fulfil your quota the sword will take control of you and eventually drain your own life away.

There is more than one route to the wizards's lair, and some paths are longer and loop back on themselves. All levels are linked by animated guardians. They're cunning and attack in an unpredictable manner – so save time and lives and just run for it.

The trouble with the game is that it's very hard to control, particularly Karn. His sword movements are slow, and when he runs he needs a second or more to stop. Most of the monsters can be jumped over or passed without hindrance and, although the screens are great to look at, you won't be too sad if you never have to go through them again. Probably a game that'll fill many a Christmas stocking, so tell your folks to cross it off their list.

Steve Keen





The magic Deathbringer gets stuck into its task and cracks a few heads together.



Deathbringer comes in an incredibly large box which is a bit stupid when the game itself is far from perfect and certainly isn't a classic.

EMPIRE £25.99

"A classic case of try before you buy. . ."

GRAPHICS	83%
SOUND	68%
LASTABILITY	65%
PLAYABILITY	64%
OVERALL	**67%**

FIGHTER COMMAND

There are two important things to note about *Fighter Command*. First, it's set in the Middle East in modern times, second it is a strategic representation of an air war – don't expect the aircraft sim hinted at on the packaging.

This is not to suggest that *Fighter Command* has little depth. The challenge of running an air campaign should stretch most people, particularly when there is as much to do as there is in this game.

Begin by selecting a scenario. There are 28 possible set-ups ranging from conflict between small states like the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, historical battles like the 1973 Yom Kippur war, and a full-scale Gulf War scenario embroiling everyone.

The action unfolds over a series of maps. A strategic map depicts the entire region, and a small cursor square can be clicked on to take you into a radar representation of the relevant area. This gives a tactical view of the playing zone with a variety of coloured dots denoting cities, bases, units, civil and military installations and, most importantly, the air traffic. By the time you're embroiled in a major conflict, the screen is a mass of multi-coloured lines and dots which should confuse anyone without air-traffic controller's qualifications.

A satellite map gives a smaller, detailed area that shows what's on and above the terrain; nevertheless, most of the action unfolds on the radar screen. However, this is limited by the range of your sweep, so one of the first things you'll need to do is send out an AWAC aircraft to increase your information.

The key to *Fighter Command* is careful resource management, because not only are your various aircraft limited, but so are your supplies.

The game ends when one side achieves air supremacy, the media turns against you, or your population becomes too demoralised. Either way, *Fighter Command* is for retired air-vice marshalls, not keen-as-mustard top guns.

Mike Pattenden





Strategy games are Impressions forte and *Fighter Command* is certainly up to their usual standard and is one of the better wargames on the market.

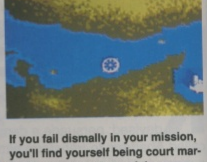
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"Aerial fun and games for top brass gamers only"

GRAPHICS	66%
SOUND	50%
LASTABILITY	80%
PLAYABILITY	75%
OVERALL	**73%**

STRIKE FLEET





If you fail dismally in your mission, you'll find yourself being court martialed and booted out of the navy.

Like *Fighter Command*, EA's *Strike Fleet* is a command-based battle simulation, but unlike Impressions' approach, it shifts you down the chain allowing you to involve yourself directly in the action.

The 14 possible scenarios range from Falklands skirmishes, Persian Gulf patrols and several what-if, WWIII battles involving pesky Commies (somewhat anachronistic, but who's quibbling?). You begin each scenario by configuring a task force of ships best suited to the one you have chosen, though it's often worthwhile making sure at least one of your vessels carries medium or long-range SAMs as they're invaluable. With a balanced fleet you then set a destination on the map (zooming in on the hotspot) and issue orders to the ships under your command, placing them on general quarters and setting their radar and sonar defences in operation.

With the basics set up, you can shift to the bridge of your flagship. Here you can control just about everything in the game and even swap to the bridges of other ships or the cockpits of helicopters. The radar is the most crucial setting allowing you to monitor the activity around you for hundreds of kilometres. Enemy movement is shown as red dots and clicking on them will give you further information.

Each ship has a variety of attack weaponry ranging through surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, torpedoes, cannons and defensive armoury which includes phalanx shells (a computer-guided anti-missile cannon) and chaff. Warning lights on the lower right tell you if you're under missile attack.

If the action is proceeding too slowly you can compress the time, though once it starts hotting up out there you'll want to slow it down to a standstill! After each game your performance is marked and a ranking assigned to you ranging from ensign to fleet admiral.

While the graphics are hardly breathtaking, they are clear and well thought out. The gameplay soon becomes absorbing, since it never takes long for the action to develop, particularly when using the time compression facility. If you're the sort of person who likes to keep track of lots of projects at once then *Strike Fleet* is the business.

Mike Pattenden

ELECTRONIC ARTS £24.95

'Excellent battle sim that's action-packed'

GRAPHICS	78%
SOUND	77%
LASTABILITY	81%
PLAYABILITY	83%
OVERALL	**81%**





THE MAGIC GARDEN

You'd think life as a gnome was boring enough – all that standing around fish ponds in suburban gardens waiting for dogs to pee on you – without having to control one in a game as dull as *The Magic Garden*.

The idea sounds promising: a mischievous gnome has to manage the Gnome King's garden as a punishment. The lawn grows rapidly and can fall victim to rampaging plants and other naughty gnomes who dig up the turf. To complicate matters, the climate is unstable and you only have a limited amount of energy which must be replenished by growing vegetables to eat or discovering little life-giving hearts.

Much of the work you have to do in the garden involves you using objects found in the shed and the greenhouse. The gnome can store useful implements in his pockets, anything in fact, from trowels through seeds, lawnmowers, watering cans and gardening forks. There are also objects which stop him losing energy too rapidly, such as an umbrella when it's raining and slippers when it turns cold. Both the greenhouse and the shed need a regulated temperature, which involves getting a generator up and running and repairing broken windows in the greenhouse.

There are less obvious areas of the garden to explore including the outdoor lavatory, a hollow tree stump and a magic well which leads to a maze of tunnels. These all contain more useful items, particularly extra energy.

The Magic Garden is reasonably good to look at – while the characters are small, they're well defined. Part of the problem is the irritating control method which involves you rifling through the gnome's pockets and clicking on objects to activate them. Most of all, though, the gameplay simply doesn't add up. It turns out to be about as interesting as listening to Gardeners' Question Time, and that's gnomean feat.

Mike Pattenden

ELECTRONIC ZOO £25.99

'Despite some promise this one's a bit weedy...'

GRAPHICS	81%
SOUND	79%
LASTABILITY	60%
PLAYABILITY	65%
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9 PIN PRINTERS



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Colour Option Extra - See Accessories

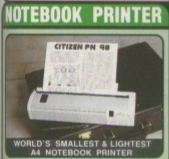
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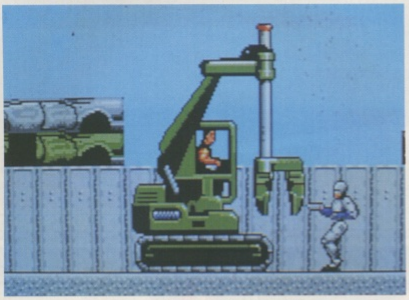
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ROBOCOP



The first really successful movie licence, *Robocop* was the first Ocean game to utilise the now-overused mixture of puzzle and arcade sequences. Stepping into the metallic insoles of ol' chrome dome himself, players must blast their way through a rogue's gallery of bad guys until he reaches the end of the level for a face-off against a larger guardian. Alternating between these arcade sequences, though, are a series of puzzles, ranging from a cross-hair-based shoot 'em up scene to a photo-fit sequence, where Robo must identify a particular felon. The mixture is a little dated now and the action repetitive but, on the whole, Robocop is still a playable blaster – if a bit on the easy side. On the downside, though, it hearkens back to the days when the Amiga saw too many straight ports from the ST and, as such, can't claim to push the machine. This said, it's probably still worth a look at its new eight-quid price tag.

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RENEGADE

An oddity, this. Although Ocean advertised its availability several years back, the Amiga version of Taito's duff 'em up coin-op never actually appeared in the UK. Faithfully recreating the five manic stages of the coin-op, Software Creations' conversion is graphically very similar to the Amstrad CPC game. The gameplay seems as slow as that of Alan Sugar's baby. The scenario tells of a street fighter out to avenge the kidnap of his chick from the clutches of yet another Mr. Big. Thus, starting in the sub-way, the player works his way through to Big's lair by kicking the crap out of any thugs who get in his way. With a full complement of easy-to-use kicks, punches and throws, the player must take on up to four opponents at a time, many of whom are armed or are seated on motorbikes. And, as expected, a harder fighter is rolled on when all his subordinates are KO'd. As a conversion, *Renegade* is more than adequate and is quite a steal as a budget release. However, its lasting appeal is severely doubtful, and the hardened binary fighter will complete it within hours. Still, hopefully *Renegade* will pave the way for the 16-bit conversion of *Target Renegade* and *Renegade III*, which are considerably better.

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games budget games

VFM

Steve Merrett, CU's resident skin flint, peruses the veritable cornucopia of budget games set for release this month. . .

OPERATION THUNDERBOLT



After an over-difficult conversion of *Operation Wolf*, fans of the series were relieved when the sequel was almost identical to its arcade parent. *Operation Thunderbolt* combines the sideways-scrolling action of the first game, with a forward-scrolling section which has since been much-copied in the likes of *Space Gun* and *Line Of Fire*. Once again, we are in 'rescue the hostages' territory, as the player and a friend attempt to blast a path through to the escape plane at the end of the game. All manner of extra weapons are both available and thrown at you, and must be shot to deflect them and the assailants blown away. The one major fault with *Op Thunderbolt* is that initially the player is left without a gun-sight, making aiming very difficult indeed, but when the laser device is found all is soon rectified and the action can really get going. A superb conversion which has lost absolutely none of its appeal and is one of the best budget re-releases to date.

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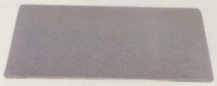
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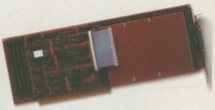
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GAME OF THE MONTH

Z-OUT

As a budget release, this is an absolute steal. Rainbow Arts' five-stage blaster nicks ideas from virtually every shoot 'em up ever released, but combines Rainbow Arts' typical polish and presentation with utterly addictive gameplay, raising it above the competition. It's back to the *R-Type*-style gameplay, as the levels unveil their Gigeresque aliens and underwater creatures, with all the usual beam weapons and missiles you'd expect to see. However, whereas *R-Type* stuck to one pattern, by borrowing ideas from other blasters, larger space ships appear and must be blasted bit by bit, and the enemy attack waves attack in manners more accustomed to the likes of *Xenon II* and *Scramble*. Add to this some of the most breath-taking graphics the Amiga has seen, and it is the final cherry on an already succulent cake. Everything about *Z-Out* is brilliant: it's fast, it's graphically superb, and it's only eight quid! Buy it today and do yourself a favour.



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GAME OF THE MONTH

FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE

Gremlin's second compilation concentrates on what they have been primarily famous for recently – the driving genre. Opening once again with *Lotus*, which needs no introduction, the compilation is completed by the likes of *Toyota Celica Rally*, *Team Suzuki*, and *Combo Racer*. Of the three, I must admit to preferring *Combo Racer*, as it is a fast and playable racer, which also adds to its longevity with the addition of a track designer. *Toyota* on the other hand bores the pants off me, with its clever but ultimately dull action – proving that different effects aren't enough to add variety to a game. Finally, *Team Suzuki* is a technically-brilliant game which is slightly over-responsive and is also rather fiddly to play. *Four-Wheel Drive* is an uneven drive which runs out of juice and is recommended with some reservations.

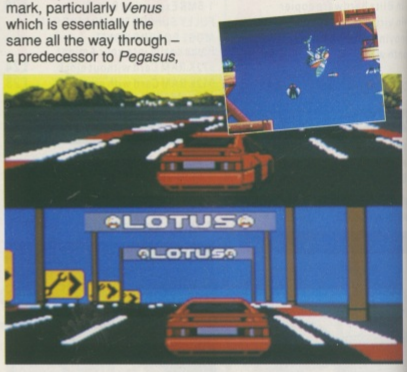




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CHART ATTACK

Gremlin enter the compilation fray with an odd mixture of driving, platform and shoot 'em up games. Opening with the brilliant *Lotus*, the pack then hits further heights with U.S Gold's excellent *Ghouls'n'Ghosts* compilation, before reaching average with Millenium's *James Pond* and Gremlin's *Venus*. There's nothing really wrong with the latter two, and both are playable little numbers, but neither can really claim to sustain interest past the two-hour mark, particularly *Venus* which is essentially the same all the way through – a predecessor to *Pegasus*, perchance? However, with the compilation scene fairly bustling with packs up to the standard of U.S. G's *MAX* and Ocean's *The Rainbow Collection*, *Chart Attack* seems both over-priced and a little weak in comparison.



GREMLIN OUT NOW £29.99 78%

THE UNTOUCHABLES

Once again, Ocean used their combination of game styles to create a neat package, and all credit goes to Special FX for creating a moody and atmospheric game. As Eliot Ness, leader of the titular band of law-enforcers, the player is left to complete seven arcade sections before Al Capone is finally put behind bars. Starting in a warehouse, where Ness must locate bottles of booze whilst avoiding the bullets of patrolling hoods, the game closely follows the film's plot as the player progresses. These scenes take the shape of an *Op Wolf*-style roof-top shoot-out and a really clever pram sequence, where Ness must steer a pram and its infant contents to safety whilst plugging Capone's cronies. All seven sections play really well, even if the first two are a little too long, and *The Untouchables* is a value-packed game which deserves to be in anyone's collection.

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GHOULS'N'GHOSTS

This sequel arrived in its Amiga form before Elite's conversion of its forerunner, *Ghosts'n'Goblins*, and far exceeded it in every respect. Retaining the 'run and jump' action of the original, *Ghouls* has a larger and more varied play area, with a whole host of zombies, magicians and vultures impeding your progress. The storyline recounts how Arthur the Knight's babe has been kidnapped by Satan himself, and whisked away to his demonic lair. Armed only with a handful of lances and a suit of armour, you must steer Arthur through the game's six levels until you get a chance to kill off Satan and rescue your girly. This action then proceeds through platform-filled towns and areas, where Arthur can collect extra weapons to aid his progress. Graphically, although they are tiny, *Ghouls'* sprites are well-drawn and detailed, and the backdrops are of an even higher standard.



In addition, supporting the action are six of the best tunes you'll ever hear from your Amiga – all of which are courtesy of Tim Follin. A brilliant little game, *Ghouls'n'Ghosts* ranks as one of my all-time faves, and as a budget release would make an inspired choice.

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STRIDER

Although Tiertex's Capcom conversion contains virtually everything from the all singin', all leapin' coin-op, it still lacks that certain something to keep the player's attention. Set in a Russia of the future, Hru Strider must run and jump his way through an evil Tsar's bio-metallic base, using his trusty sword to cut a path through to the guardian who awaits at the end of each stage. The levels are varied and interesting, with a large selection of gun turrets and baddies, and the assorted stages take the player through Amazonian-style forests and the wintry wastelands of Siberia. The main plus about *Strider* is that the game is easy to play, with extra weaponry and powerups adding to the fun. However, there is a feeling of luck rather than skill as progress is made, and the loss of life is often down to the illogical actions of the aliens rather than the fault of the player. It's debatable if the game will keep your interest for long.



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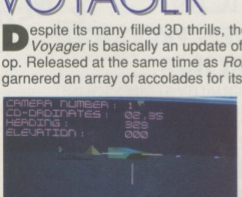
CHASE HQ

Taito's coin-op combined arcade technology with a typical Miami Vice scenario to provide arcade-goers with one of the best slants the racing genre had seen – a good old-fashioned chase. After receiving orders from Nancy, your Police computer, the player must drive past all manner of obstacles in order to reach the baddy trying to escape. At hand are a number of turbo boosts, but time is short and the roads are very busy indeed. All this leads up to a ramming mission until the bad guy's car is run off the road. The Amiga version had virtually everything from the coin-op in terms of ideas, but the implementation was very poor indeed. The other vehicles are tiny and resemble bubble cars, and the road wends its weary way slowly and jerkily. In addition, the same task must be performed repeatedly, which wasn't especially noticeable when playing the coin-op, but is a real drag here. An OK conversion at best, *Chase HQ* looks older than John Thaw's shirts in an episode of The Sweeney.

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VOYAGER

Despite its many filled 3D thrills, there's no denying that *Voyager* is basically an update of the old *Battlezone* coin-op. Released at the same time as *Robocop*, *Voyager* garnered an array of accolades for its fast 3D action, sadly, the repetitive gameplay was virtually ignored. Blasting tanks and planes whilst slipping between your vehicle's two modes is all very well, but in terms of depth it has less than your average puddle. There has been an attempt to rectify the problem, with the inclusion of a tunnel section, but, this too is dull and tired. A playable game in the short-term, *Voyager* was a visual showcase which doesn't even have that going for it now.



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NINJA COMPILATION

Following their brilliant *Rainbow Collection*, Ocean gather together three more similar games for a second crack of the whip. The pack contains *Dragon Ninja*, *Double Dragon*, and *Shadow Warriors*, but only the latter makes the grade. Both *Dragon Ninja* and *Double Dragon* are inept conversions that are both dull and uninteresting and, in the case of *Dragon Ninja*, pretty unplayable. *Shadow Warriors*, on the other hand, is a playable conversion of the popular coin-op which is sadly let down by its companions. Still, with *Double Dragon* and *Dragon Ninja* already out on budget, perhaps *Shadow Warriors* will be re-released through Ocean's Hit Squad label. If so, wait until then...



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THE SUB-GAMES:

CAREFUL WITH THAT AXE, EUGENE...

The main problem here is that the wobbly cursor makes aiming tricky. To counter this, simply position the cursor as close to the girl's head as possible, leaving as little leeway as possible. Then, wait until the cursor is over the rope's thickest point and it should hit it first time. You have ten axes to sever each of the eight ropes, and it is best to hit the two vertical ropes first as their angle makes these hardest to hit.

A CRASHING BOAR

The hardest of the three sub-games, the key to catching the rampant pig is to take your time. The pig will knock you over whenever you get too close, wasting valuable time, so the best way to catch hold of it is to run alongside it and jump diagonally on to its back. If your timing is spot on, the pig will end up in your lap – if not, try again.



Explore everywhere and collect as many objects as possible. Anything could prove useful.



Whenever you approach anyone important, always listen to what they have to say.

BOAT JUMPING

As the aim here is to get the gold to the left of the scrolling boat, try not to waste too much time fighting off the blokes protecting it. The control system is a simple 'turn and jump' affair, so jump to the far left of the screen to the gold, pausing only to kill whoever gets in the way, and then leg it straight back to the right of the vessel. Don't hang around and you'll have no problems at all.

THE MAIN GAME:

SELECTING A PARTY

Depending on your success in the sub-games, or if you opted to ignore them altogether, you will be allowed to choose the members of your five-person crew.

Among the trades available to you are Magicians, Warriors, Druids, and Blacksmiths, and a good balance between strength and magical capabilities should be struck. Thus, when you are about to explore an island, your ideal trio would be two strongmen and a Magician; the former two can then protect the latter as he translates the runes.

On the whole, though, the following selection are probably the best: a Bezerker, as their strength and excellent health makes them invaluable in combat. A Warrior for the same reasons as the Bezerker. A Wizard, to translate the Runes should Heimdall be killed – otherwise you won't be able to read them. Finally, despite any real dexterity or speed, round the party off with a Navigator as they, too, make excellent fighters. He will then warn you about the length of journey, allowing you stock up beforehand.

THE QUEST BEGINS

Obviously, with so many puzzles within the game's three worlds we haven't got the space to explain every puzzle, but they follow a simple pattern which the following guidelines will help you through:

Before you select an island, give all of your gold to one member of your landing party. Then keep this person as the 'banker' throughout the game. If you use another guy to hold all the keys, not only will this save carrying space, but you'll be able to keep track of all useful objects quickly.

Always collect loads of food, as it is essential for keeping your party alive – it's also necessary if you are to survive journeys to the further islands. Also, make sure that members of the crew left on the boat have food, too. Keep an eye on the party's health stats at all times for an early warning of hunger or a dangerous loss of energy.

If it isn't possible to translate a scroll with your current members, DON'T chuck them away. All the scrolls will prove useful, and the one you throw away may be the extremely useful 'Reincarnation' scroll which can breathe new life into a dead hero. If you have several of one kind of scroll (lots of trap disarms, for instance), either leave some on the ship or discard them if really necessary. Additionally, if any of the weapons you are carrying are surplus (do you really need two swords?), don't hesitate to drop the weaker ones. The space saved can be used for extra spells or food.

When your party stumble across a chest, don't bother using a 'disarm trap' ➢



During the Boat sub-game, keep moving and don't waste time fighting.



Learn your way around the fight screen's icons for maximum efficiency.



When encountering nasties, try to avoid a fight until you are comfortably healthy.



Shown here are the journey times for each island. By recruiting a navigator, you will receive early warning about whether your food supply will last the voyage.

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B21 – Base II – Easy to use database
B22 – Database Wiz – Name & address
APD52 – Forms Really Unlimited
APD119 – Electrocad demo *V1.4*
APD132 – Family History Database
APD134 – Business letter – Pretty good!
APD257 – Cassette Labeller – For the inlays
APD266 – Amos 3D Demo

SLIDESHOWS & PICS

P05 – Pendle Europa Slideshow – V.Good
P09 – Sunslide II – Exceptional quality
P11/2 – Nasa Slideshows – Both 1 & 2 here
P25 – Roger Dean – Excellent slideshow
P28 – Sunslide III – Brilliant follow up
P32 – Agatron 6 – From Tobias Richter
P33 – Agatron 8 – More from TRs stable
P40 – Max's Art – Very nicely done
P41 – Nemesis Prologue – From Hanibal
P47 – Joe Slideshow – Exceptional artwork
P48 – Psygnosis Slideshow – Rather brilliant
P54 – Sunconnection – More from this group
P62/3 Channel 42 & Silents – Very good
P65 – Agatron 12 – Fantastic quality
P66 – Fraxion Future Visions – Very good
P67 – Agatron 11 – Incredible standards
P767/7 – Nemesis Chapt. 1 – The next chapter
P78/8 – Laurel & Hardy – Brilliant for fans
P83 – Invisible World – Bugs n things
P85 – Robocop – By Hanibal, *Unbelievable!!*
P89 – Art for Arts Sake – By Hanibal, Brill
P91 – Pixelion – Absolutely superb
P93/4 – Star Trek Megademo – 1 Meg min
P95 – Rick Parks Art – Quite incredible

ANIMATIONS (most 1mb)

A06 – More Aerotones – By Ernie Schwartz
A10 – Batman – This is brilliant (by ES)
A11 – Pizza in Space – Brilliant
A12 – Probe – The most famous of all anims
A17 – Stealthy II – Excellent little animation
A19 – Star Trek Enterprise Maneuvres – Good
A20 – Agatron 26 – Dry dock
A13 – Agatron 2 – Includes F15 fighter
A48 – Boxy Bee & Tree Frog – Very good
A49 – Fractal Flight – Small screen anim
A58 – Walk – Brilliant chrome legs walking
A61 – Agatron 15 – Billiards & Lotus + F15
A62 – Shuttle Collector – Brilliant sequence
A63 – Juggler II – Very, very funny. See it!
A67/8/9 – Station at Kerne – 2 Meg
A70/71 – Lost in Space 2 Meg
A76 – Agatron 30 – Millenium Falcon
A77 – Agatron 17 – Tank and Mensch
A78 – Agatron 24 – Kid and ping pong
A79 – Agatron 33 – Probe and end of prey
A81/2 – Walker & A1000 – Exciting
A83 – Dropship & Shuttle – Very Good
A84 – Agatron 36 – Bird flight
A87 – Car – Lotus & Unicycle, brilliant
A88 – Bunsen Burner – Brilliant 3D flight
A89 – Agatron 22 – Includes agroach + more
A90 – Agatron 29 – Includes Huey Helicopter
A91 – Franklin the Fly – Needs 2 drives
A94/5 – X-Wing – Rather brilliant sequence
A96/7 – Light Cycle – From Tron and Brill!
A98/9 – Anti-Lemmings – 2 Meg
A100/1/2/3/4/5 – The Vid – Exceptional
A107/8/9/10 – The Landing – 4 Meg
A111 – Mars – Absolutely incredible, get it!
A112 – Juggette II – Another hilarious anim
A115 – Agatron 27 – Body and others
A116 – Agatron 28 – Disconnect, Beautiful
A117 – Agatron 29 – Millenium Falcon
A124 – Shuttlecock – By Eric Schwartz
A126 – Real 3D Anim – "Real Pinball"
A127 – Real 3D Anim2 – T-Pot and balls (?)

MUSIC

M01 – Sound Samples – Includes perfect sound
M04 – Synthesizer – Brilliant music & graphics
M10 – Iran Middle Jarre – With good pics
M14 – Bramos Music Box 2 – Very good
M15 – Sound of Silents – 7 tracks, V good
M18 – Amigadens – By Rob Baxter, Brill
M19 – Classix 1 – Another artistic sound
M20 – Classix 2 – More of his formidable work
M34 – APDC 11 – Sound utilities
M35 – APDL 28 – *MIDI UTILITIES*
M42/3 – Soundtracker *V4* – Excellent
M52/3/45 – Modules – Need I say more?
M58/9/60 – Metal Modules – Good
M61/2/3 – Sound samples for S'Tracker
M87 – Games Music Creator – Difficult
M88 – Pendle Europa 6 – Excellent disk
M105 – Burning Independence II – Brill
M115 – Steppen Wolf – By the same
M121 – Sunconnection – Nicely done
M131 – Deluxe Music Data – Needs DMC
M134 – Kefrens Jokebox – Good
M145 – Midi Programmes
M152 – Midi Programmes – More
M165 – MED *V3.11* – Fantastic music editor
M169 – Chip Music – 43 tracks to hear
M172 – Audiomagic *V1.1* – Brilliant utilities
M175 – Startracker – 8 track tracker (!)
M182 – Future Composer – Pretty good
M186/7/8 – By The Bartman
M192 – Do The Bartman Re-Mix!!
M196 – Powerfoods Sound Utilities
M198/9 – Vivaldi – By Rob Baxter
M201/2/3 – House Samples
M208/9 – RSI Modules Disks
M216 – Drums & Pipes – Brilliant
M223 – RSI Modules Disk 3
M225 – Audiomagic *V2* – More utilities
M227 – Psygnosis Samples – Sound samples
M223 – Jean Michel Jarre Live – *Brilliant*
M234 – Delta Music Editor – Very good

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LPD27 – Power Power – Educationally orientated for the very young 1 disk
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LPD32 – Hard Drive Menu System – Superb for drive utility, used by us!! 1 disk
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LPD35 – T-Tech Draw – Full technical drawing program. Fantastic results 1 disk
LPD38 – Amos Art – Full of goodies for inclusion in your own AMOS creations 1 disk
LPD40 – SpriteBank Editor – Bloody Superb. Need I say more? Needs AMOS 1 disk
LPD41 – Rescue – Created using incentives 3D, con kit and is nicely done! 1 disk
LPD42 – MUSIC BOX – The ultimate in music education for kids, this is quite simply the best I have ever seen 1 disk
LPD46 – Magpies Clipart – Crystal clear images of clipart, categorised 512
LPD47 – Dirty Cash – Beautifully done fruit machine simulator, excellent 1 disk
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LPD49 – Marvin the Martian – A traditional maze game, for children 1 disk
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LPD51 – Magical Young Artist – A colouring in type program for kids 512
LPD52 – LC24/200 Fonts – Same as LPD22 but also thought to be compatible with most printers' 512
LPD53 – Magpies Clipart 3 512
LPD54 – Magpies Clipart 4 512
LPD55 – SpriteX V1.32 – An update to the earlier version and enhanced AMOS
LPD56 – C Text V1.32 – An extension to AMOS to allow you to use icon based fonts which can be drawn in up to 16 colours. Some fonts are supplied on disk. AMOS

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HEIMDALL

spell on it. The spells are more useful later in the game and the energy lost if a chest sparkles with evil magic or shoots out daggers is minimal.

As a rule, explore the entire room before you activate any lone floor switches. It's more than likely that a series of arrows will shoot out at you, costing you loads of energy, so see if there is anything it could alter in the room before risking it. Another basic rule is to be wary when walking past chests. These are often surrounded by hidden pits which you'll fall into when approaching. Try to skirt around them instead. Also, try to keep to the edge of a room as pits are generally less frequent here – there's normally twice as many pits in the centre of a room than around the perimeter.

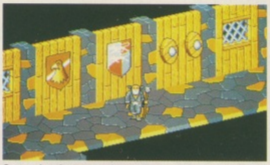
Concentrate on increasing Heimdall's or the wizard's Runelore skills. This is effected by using the potions marked with the rune signs. Some will increase your health and strength whilst others will bump up your Runeskills – either way, use them on the chosen two. As their Runeskills grow, this will make more scrolls available to you and will make further spells usable by the duo – particularly useful in world three!



Floor switches are best left alone unless no exit is immediately available.



Be careful, as some of the islands can be entered from two points.

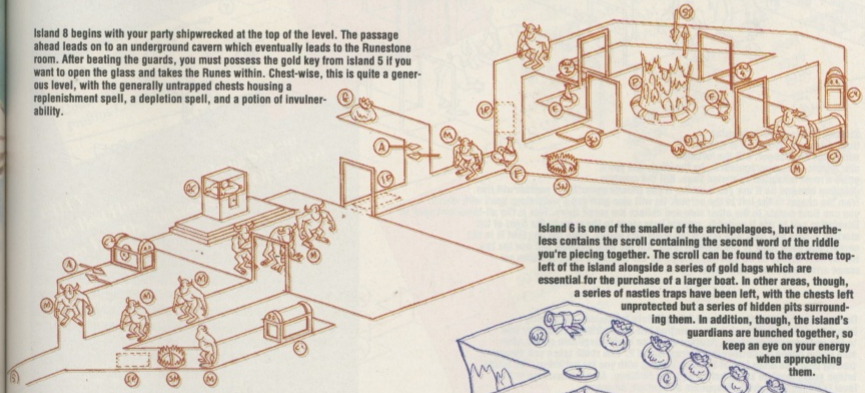


Swapping between the party members allows for more efficient use of spells and weapons.

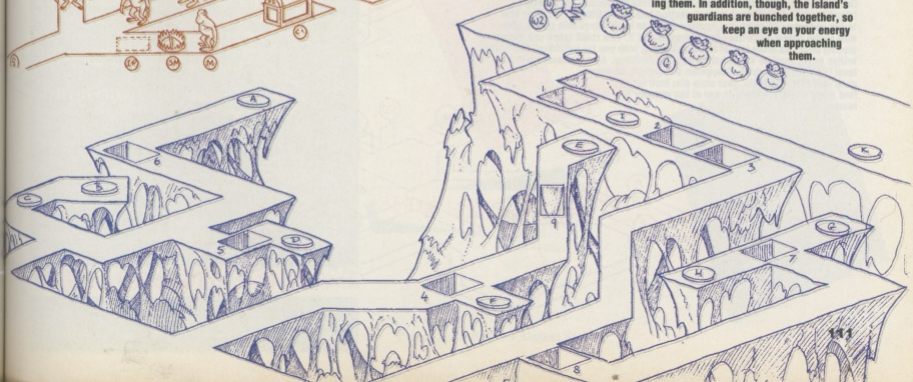
FIGHTING

Only start a fight if your party's health is up to it. This is especially true of Heimdall as he is the most capable character and his loss can wreck your mission instantly. If possible, try to avoid fighting unless you've come up against a dead end and you think the opponent may hold the key to solving the puzzle. This can be achieved by either giving them a wide berth in the 3D section or by trying to run away.

Familiarise yourself with the layout of the fighting screen, too, as the game is played in real-time and energy is lost rapidly. Use the heaviest weapons you have for normal fighters, and save the magic spells for the larger Spiders, Sea Monsters and the like. If possible, though, avoid the Spiders as they are probably the hardest creatures to kill. If a fight is inevitable, wait until your opponent is off-guard before you swipe at him or throw a dagger. This depletes his energy faster and effectively doubles the effectiveness of daggers – the most deadly of all the weapons. Finally, if a party member is losing badly – change him! That way, nobody is lost for good.

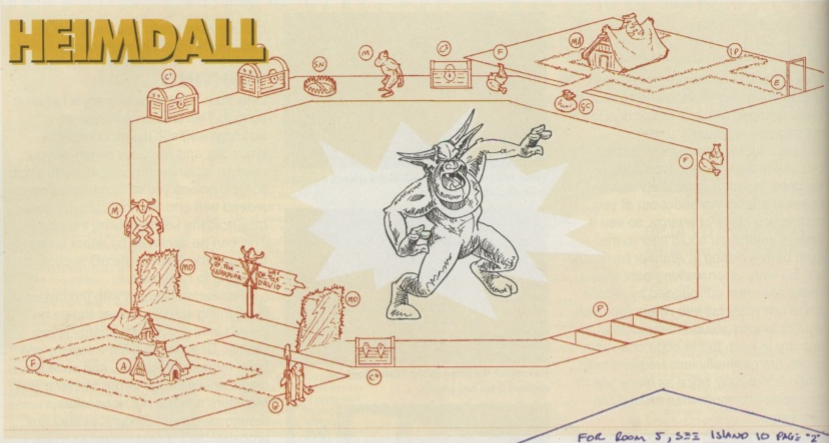


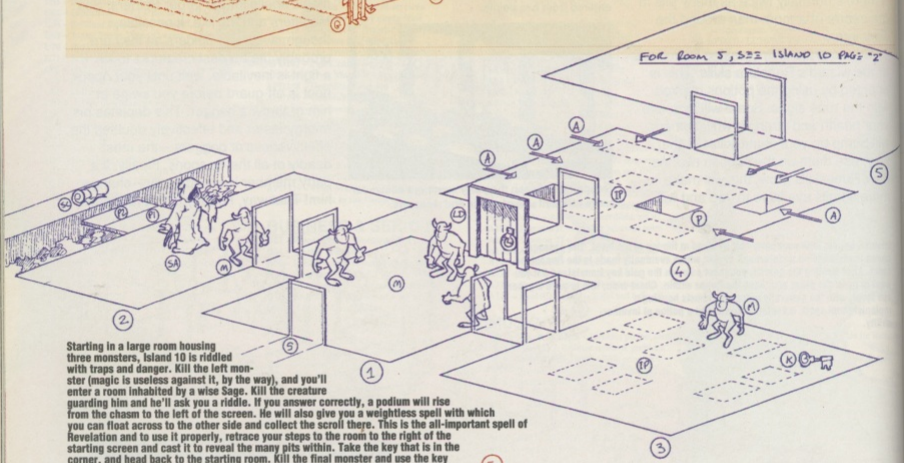
Island 8 begins with your party shipwrecked at the top of the level. The passage ahead leads on to an underground cavern which eventually leads to the Runestone room. After beating the guards, you must possess the gold key from island 5 if you want to open the glass and takes the Runes within. Chest-wise, this is quite a generous level, with the generally untrapped chests housing a replenishment spell, a depletion spell, and a potion of invulnerability.



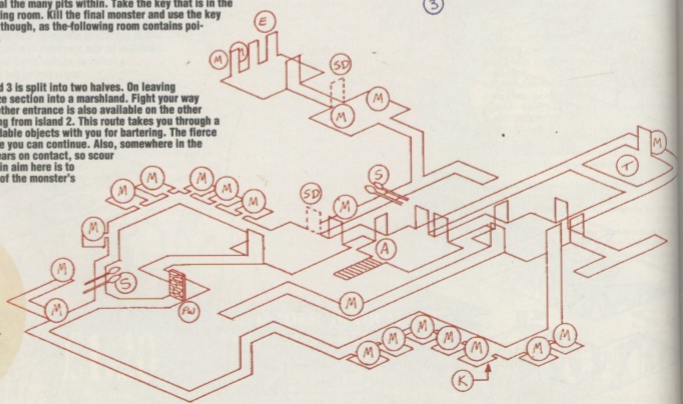
Island 6 is one of the smaller of the archipelagoes, but nevertheless contains the scroll containing the second word of the riddle you're piecing together. The scroll can be found to the extreme top-left of the island alongside a series of gold bags which are essential for the purchase of a larger boat. In other areas, though, a series of nasties traps have been left, with the chests left unprotected but a series of hidden pits surrounding them. In addition, though, the island's guardians are bunched together, so keep an eye on your energy when approaching them.

HEIMDALL





Starting in a large room housing three monsters, Island 10 is riddled with traps and danger. Kill the left monster (magic is useless against it, by the way), and you'll enter a room inhabited by a wise Sage. Kill the creature guarding him and he'll ask you a riddle. If you answer correctly, a podium will rise from the chasm to the left of the screen. He will also give you a weightless spell with which you can float across to the other side and collect the scroll there. This is the all-important spell of Revelation and to use it properly, retrace your steps to the room to the right of the starting screen and cast it to reveal the many pits within. Take the key that is in the corner, and head back to the starting room. Kill the final monster and use the key for the door behind it. Be careful, though, as the following room contains poisoned arrow traps and lots of pits.



Due to memory restrictions, island 3 is split into two halves. On leaving island 1 you'll walk through a maze section into a marshland. Fight your way to the underground entrance. Another entrance is also available on the other side of the island if you are coming from island 2. This route takes you through a trading point, so bring lots of tradable objects with you for bartering. The fierce bridge guard must be killed before you can continue. Also, somewhere in the level is a fake wall which disappears on contact, so scour each room for it. Finally, your main aim here is to find a key which is hidden in one of the monster's rooms.



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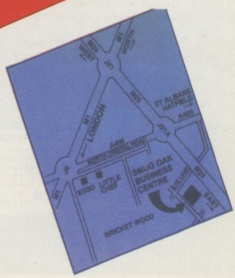
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Brief Summary of what your program does

.....

Type of Program:

- **GRAPHICS/MUSIC PACKAGE** ❑
- **GAME** ❑
- **DEMO** ❑
- **PROGRAMMER'S TOOL** ❑
- **PROGRAMMER'S ROUTINE** ❑
- **FUN** ❑
- **MISCELLANEOUS** ❑

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Signed ..... **Date** .....

STRIDER II – U.S. Gold

Start the game and type SWIFT. A cheat icon should appear and now pressing E will replenish Strider's energy, while D will replenish his Robot's energy.

ARMALYTE – Thalamus

Arc's original variant on the C64 classic left a lot to be desired, but if you splashed out twenty-five quid for it here's how to get a little more for your money. Pause the game with the P key at any time and enter the legend DELTA 3 (not forgetting the space). Ta da! Infinite lives are yours for the taking...

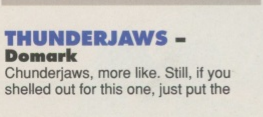


LOTUS II – Gremlin

To gain infinite time for this exciting road-racer, simply type TURPENTINE in as a password. The timer will then be set at ten seconds, but won't budge. Also, if you enter DUX as a password an updated version of the old Atari coin-op *Carnival* appears – this one is definitely for nostalgia fans.

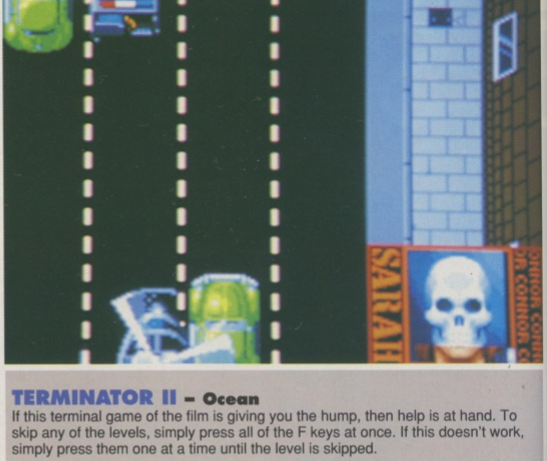
ELF – Ocean

This is a massive game, so a cheat was much appreciated. Type in CHOROPOO on the title screen and your little Elf will be the proud recipient of 99 lives no less. Also, you won't need to buy the Wolf or Hardman potions – just press W and H for them respectively...



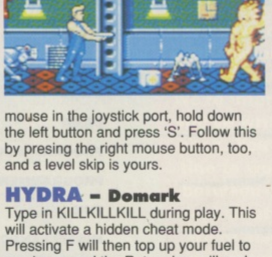
THUNDERJAWS – Domark

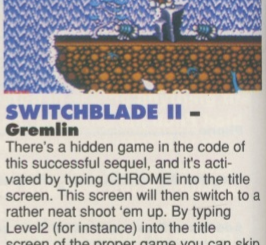
Chunderjaws, more like. Still, if you shelled out for this one, just put the mouse in the joystick port, hold down the left button and press 'S'. Follow this by presing the right mouse button, too, and a level skip is yours.



TERMINATOR II – Ocean

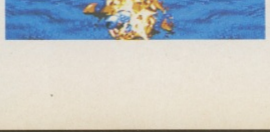
If this terminal game of the film is giving you the hump, then help is at hand. To skip any of the levels, simply press all of the F keys at once. If this doesn't work, simply press them one at a time until the level is skipped.





HYDRA – Domark

Type in KILLKILLKILL during play. This will activate a hidden cheat mode. Pressing F will then top up your fuel to maximum and the Return key will cycle through your weapons.



SWITCHBLADE II – Gremlin

There's a hidden game in the code of this successful sequel, and it's activated by typing CHROME into the title screen. This screen will then switch to a rather neat shoot 'em up. By typing Level2 (for instance) into the title screen of the proper game you can skip to any of the game's level. Simply change the number after each stage to reach the required level.

WARZONE – Core

Want infinite lives for this superior yomp 'em up? Well, just follow the simple procedure of pressing F1, F2 and F3 on the title screen and – Abracadabra – there you are!



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12

Moonstone contains scenes of strong graphic imagery with particular realism. Although these scenes are optional, this product is voluntarily rated 12. Parental Guidance is recommended for younger players, however this is not a legal requirement.

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North & South
Fire & Forget
Hostages

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XMAS INFO
TO AVOID THE INEVITABLE LAST MINUTE PANIC, STOCK SHORTAGES, AND LATE POST. PLEASE GET YOUR CHRISTMAS ORDERS IN EARLY. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS ON ORDERS RECIVED OR MADE AFTER 30th NOVEMBER 1991

(Personal callers welcome) **HOW TO FIND US.....**

Maps showing direct routes from the motorway and A5

DEMOS

If it's Amiga PD you're after, then look no further! Each month, Dan Slingsby takes an exhaustive look at what's new on the demos circuit.

TURNING JAPANESE

The Italian Bad Boys latest offering, Magad!, features Jap-style graphics accompanied by a suitable electro-rave backing track. Watch out for the dancing panda!

PD Soft, ★★★★





STAR TREKKING



Those of you who were unfortunate owners of an ST, before upgrading to an Amiga, might remember an old Telecomsoft game based on the cult '60s sci-fi show, Star Trek. Written by Mike Singleton, the game featured digitised images of all the principle crew members with an easy point-and-click system used to access the various ship systems. By clicking onto each character, a variety of controls were uncovered. For example, by clicking onto McCoy the medical facilities of sickbay were at your disposal and clicking onto Sulu let you set the course and destination of the Enterprise. The game never made it onto the Amiga as Telecomsoft folded and the license to Star Trek was lost.

Obviously, Eric Gustafson was quite a fan of the ST Star Trek game as he's taken the bones of the original and designed his own Amiga version of the game. Everything's there, including the digitised opening sequence from the show and all the sampled sound effects which run throughout the game. The three-disk game puts you in control of the Enterprise as you undertake another five year mission, this time to recover vital Federation information which has been stolen and secreted somewhere in the galaxy. By guiding the Enterprise around the various star systems, it's possible to visit the various planets and search for vital clues to the information's whereabouts. Although this game has been on the PD circuit for a number of years, it's still terrific stuff and one of the best-selling PD games ever!

PD Direct, PDG2A/B/C, ★★★★

SUPPLIERS' GUIDE

A Bit On The Side: 8 Thorald Place, Kirk Sandall, Doncaster.
Amiganuts: 169 Dale Valley Road, Hollybrook, Southampton.
Deja Vu: 25 Park Road, Wigan, WN6 7AA
G&S PD: 46 Weller Drive, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2YA.
NBS: 132 Gunville Road, Newport, Isle Of Wight, PO30 5LH.
Off the Wall PD, 96 Macor Street, Newport, Gwent, NP9 0GW
PD Direct: 86 George Street, Newcastle, Staffs., ST5 1DN
PD Soft : 1 Bryant Avenue, Southend - On -Sea, Essex SS1 2YD.
Strictly PD: 11 York Place, Braidon, Bristol BS1 5UT.
Seventeen Bit: PO Box 97, Wakefield, WF1 1XX.
Softville, Unit 5, Stratfield Park, Electra Avenue, Waterlooville, Hants, PO7 7XN.
TCS: Handsworth Road, Blackpool, FY1 2RF
Vally PD: PO Box 15, Peterlee, Co Durham.
Virus Free PD: 23 Elborough Street, Swindon, SN2 2LS.

JOIN THE JETSET



Ultimate's *Jetpac* game, which took the Spectrum world by storm in the early eighties, makes its debut on the Amiga this month courtesy of Marco Bianchi. *Jetmen* puts you in control of a small spaceman who has to be guided around a screen using his jetpack picking up parts for a space buggy while fending off attacks from alien attack craft. Once the buggy has been built and fuel pods collected, the game begins anew with another, more complex craft to build and so on. One for nostagia fans only!

PD Soft, G2018, ★

HAMMERIN' TIME

Good rave disks are becoming more and more popular and here's one of the best. Produced by Extensor, *Hypnotic Hammer II* offers a meaty beat coupled with some great graphics and strobe effects. S'funny, but if something like this got onto Top of the Pops or the Chart Show, it'd leave everything else trailing in its wake. Hot stuff.

Diskovery PD, Disk D233, ★★★★★







JACK'S BACK!

Ol' plastic face is back! Yep, the idol of millions(!?) has decided to inflict his particular brand of music on us once more and, to my horror, somebody has already released a sample of *Black & White* onto the demos circuit. If you're one of those poor deluded souls who think Jacko's music is pure bliss, you'll love it. For those of us who pride ourselves on having a modicum of taste, however, this is beyond death...

CLS, Disks B&W 1&2 ★★

GOT IT TAPED

Sample disks are always great fun and Dennis have come up with a disk crammed full of over 60 brilliant samples including the Flintstones theme tune, HAL 9000 trying to convince everyone he's basically an A-OK computer and Dirty Harry threatening to blow your head clean off your shoulders. Excellent.

Diskovery PD, Disk U144, ★★★★★



THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC

Mahoney and Kaktus bid a fond farewell to the PD scene with *His Masters Noise*, a blistering compilation of 100 tunes. It's taken the guys more than 20 months to cram all the songs onto two disks, but it's been well-worth the effort. Not everything is an instant classic, and some parts are decidedly ropey, but when the team gel they're capable of quality music.

Rubber Radish, ★★★

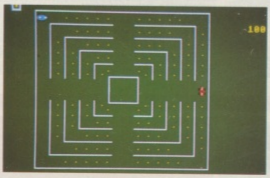


GROUND FORCE

New PD company, Ground Zero, have published a series of quality game disks. Number five in the series has 23 games on offer including such PD stalwarts as *Bally II, Tiny, The World of S-Ball, Maze, Missile Command, Slot Cars* and *RusHour*. The last game is a PD clone of the age-old coin-op, *Head On*, in which the player has to drive a car around a maze-like arena collecting point-awarding white dots scattered about each lane while avoiding a suicidal computer-controlled car.

Ground Zero, Disk G63, ★★★★





NOW THAT'S WHAT WE CALL MUSIC...

Static Bytes have released *All-time Greatest Hits Vol.6*, featuring some serious sonic earbashing by the likes of Phenomena, Silents and Network. Best of the lot is Anarchy's Enjoy the Silence, a digital reworking of one of Depeche Mode's greatest hits.

17 Bit, Disk 1459, ★★★★★

NBS
UPD3, 1 CHAIN LANE, NEWPORT,
ISLE OF WIGHT, PO30 5QA
0983 529 594

UNITED PUBLICA

Astronomy Slideshow
Nice pictures ....

Anarchy Digital
Innovation .. Great !

Psygnosis Agony
Brians big Valley ....

VIRTUAL WORLD - Demo
of the year award ?

CUBULOUS - Tobias's
biffy puzzle game

ENIGMA ? Well its de-
finetely a Phenomena !

Get one of these for the
price of a disk ...

Weird Sciences
Butterflies shideshow.

Wheres my disks ? He
should have chose UPD

GAMES

ADVENTURE SOLUTIONS 2 disks full of adventure solutions! (2)
AIR WARRIOR This is a flight simulator program
ALL NEW STAR TREK Great game from Tobias Richter! (2)
ARTP & SLOT CARS A graphical role playing game & a car game
APIDYA Nice demo of a horizontal shoot em up!
ASSASSINS 1 Tans, Rollerpede, Avatrix, Cavemunner & Amigoids,
ASSASSINS 2 Girl action, Missile command Invaders & 3 more!
ASSASSINS 3 Megaball & Drip! Sports/Arcaniod game & platform game
ASSASSINS 4 Jumper, Gomoku, Cracker, Jumpy, Turbo duel & Klondike!
ASSASSINS 5 Raid, Go Lody & Retaliator. 3 shoot em ups
ASSASSINS 6 Downhill challenge, Pacmen 87, Mets Llamas & Welltrix
ASSASSINS 7 Destination Moonbase, Trix, Mightworks & Clauds runner
ASSASSINS 8 Ace it, Hole, Hyperbowler & Snakepit!
ASSASSINS 9 Battle pong & Blizzard
ASSASSINS 10 Escape, Pipeline, Pickout & Sys!
ASSASSINS 11 Dad, Conner, Towers of Hanoi, Reversi & Trippin!
ASSASSINS 12 Llamatron, Car, Powerpong & X F F
ASSASSINS 13 Jail,Asteroids,Block Out,Breakout & Arkanoid
ATIC ATAC A conversion of the old classic Spectrum game
AWESOME PREVIEW! Fantastic preview of a great game!
BATTLEFORCE a strategy war game similar to Nechforce
BLACKJACK A really good version of the game
CASTLE OF DOOM Easy graphic adventure game
CHINESE CHECKERS Computer version of the popular board game
COLOSSUS X BOARD Two very good adventures from Software distillery
CROSSWORD COMPILER Nice program for making crosswords!
CUBULUS Nice cubik cube style game from Tobias Richter
DARKSTAFF A spectrum emulated text adventure game
DRAGONS CAVE great Dungeons game, nice graphics!
ED 209 Robocop style shoot em up!
ETERNAL ROME & DOMINOES 2 nice games on this disk
ENIGMUL MAZE Nice 3d maze game, allows 4 views of maze at once
FLASHBIER Over 200 levels in this bouderdash type game
FRANTIC FIGHTER Classic platform type fun with good music
GALACTIC FOOD FIGHT Fight through ice cream cones fruit etc
GAMES GALORE 1 Drip tiles Quix OiLX Invaders Chess Yahtzee Othello
GAMES GALORE 2 Wellitz Skyfight Breakout Lander Lemmings Lam Bluemoon
GAMES GALORE 3 Gravattack Asteroids Pingpong Minibiast Orbit 3d
GAMES GALORE 4 Mr Munk Diplomacy Sol Mutant Chase Egyptian run
GAMES GALORE 5 Cosmo Cat & mouse Mazeman Rollon Trivia Pharoah
GAMES GALORE 6 Tint Jumpy Def Con 4 Robots SimLife King rats 5B
GROWTH Brilliant game where you must shoot the brain!
HACK Great text adventure in the Infocom style
HOLLYWOOD HIJINX Nice trivia game lots of questions!
HOLY GRAIL A nice text adventure, one of the best
JEOPARDY Version of the board game Risk!
LAMER GAME Similar to operation wolf shoot em up.
LARN Another very well regarded text adventure game
LEARN & PLAY Nice little game on two disks (2)
LASERZONE Great old 64 classic shoot em up!
LEAPING LARRY Platform game similar to Amos
LETTRIX Nice puzzle games similar to Tetris!
LORE OF CONQUEST Exellent space trading game D&D style!
MARBLE SLIDE Puzzle game, build slides up!
MASTER OF THE TOWN Shoot the signposts in this game
MENTAL IMAGE PACK 3 great games Breakout Invaders & Rebound
MORA Text adventure based around Dungeons & Dragons theme!
NAPOLEONIC WAR SIMULATOR A nice strategy war game
NESTOR CARD GAME Another card game, looks quite good!
NETHACK Dungeons & Dragon adventure game, very popular! (2)
NO MANS LAND Hi tech war games shoot em up
NU GAME Shoot em up with good graphics, quite difficult!
OMICRON Nice shoot em up similar to Defender game
POM POM GUNNER Blast the enemy aircraft in this Beached clone
PROPHECY MARKET Become a millionaire before you retire at 65
RAPHAELS REVENGE A turtles game done in SEUCK!
RETURN TO EARTH Elite type space trading game!
RINGS OF ZON Interesting adventure/strategy game
7 TILES Superb futuresports type game, Great!
SKATE THRIE Jump on to your skateboard! Nice graphics.
SCUM HATERS Shoot em up done by Brazzle Akins in SEUCK
SEALANCE A submarine strategy game seems very involved
SERENE SHOOT UP Another good quality Shoot em up
SERENE II Follow up to the above game
SIMPSONS Another Vertically scrolling shoot em up done in SEUCK!
SPLITTING Puzzle game, rearrange Ronald Reagans features!
ST BASH Bash the Atari Sts in this fun Invaders game.
STARFLEET Nice little game done in SEUCK!
STAR TREK The very similar game by Jim Bowery, very good (2)
STAR TREK NEXT GENERATION Strategy game runs in Hires 1mg
STAR TREK THE SHOOT EM UP Yes a SEUCK version of game.
SUBTERRANEAN Nice text based shoot em up!
SUPER TWINRIS Superb 2 player tetris game!
SWIV DEMO Superb demo of an excellent shoot em up!
TENNIS a good shareware tennis game! 1mg
TRAIN CONSTRUCTION KIT make your own track layouts!
TREK THUNDER Yes another Star Trek game, loads of questions!
TRUCKIN ON A trading game based around truck haulage (2 disks)
TURRICAN PREVIEW Great demo of superb shoot em up!
THE EVIL DEAD GAME Blast the goolies in this crazy game
THE JAIL Nice little jump & run game
THE INSIDERS CLUB Stocks &shares game, see how far you get
WATERMINES Nice bouiderdash type game!
WET BEAVER GAMES Version of the popular game
WONDERSOFT GAMES Golf, Congi, Missile, Trillion, Windmill & Concentrate
WIZZYS QUEST A very good arcade adventure game from Germany
YELP Nice little painter type game
ZEUS A new type Scroller Block puzzle game.
Note: Funpack 1-17 in stock, full of games which WILL work
on the new Amiga 500 Plus! Phone for details!

UTILITIES & SERIOUS SOFTWARE

A-GENE Good geneology program, to trace your family name. Requires 1meg.
ASM. 6800 Assembler program for the Amiga rather difficult to use.
A64 EMULATOR Commodore 64 emulator program + some basic listings!
AMATEUR RADIO I Some programs for you guys in the radio ham!
AMICASH A very good banking program for the Amiga!
ANIMATED POWERPACK Disk full of animated pointers!
AMIBASE 3.76 One of the best Amiga databases. Search facilities and more
ANLYTICALC Now unpacked and ready to use! (2 disks)
ARP 1.3 Amigados compatibility program, contains new libraries & more !
ASI LABEL PRINTER5 All the best label printing programs now on one disk!
ASSASSINS GRAFFITI UTILS Great disk full of graphics convertors etc.
ASSASSINS BOOT UTILITIES Loads of bootblock utilities on here.
BANKIN A complete cheque book analysis program. Keep tabs on your money
BIORYTHMS & STARCHART Check your Biorythms & examine the night sky!
BUSINESS CARD MAKER Make your own with this useful utility.
C MANUAL 8 (4) New and better ! Version 2 now comes on 4 disks !
C-LIGHT RAY TRACER A commercial ray tracing package. Now PD !!!!
CHEMISTRY Nice Chemistry program for molecule display etc!
CHET SOLACE UTILS 26 utilities on this disk.
CLERK Another program similar to Journal, manages your bank account.
CLIPART 8 disks crammed full of some of the best clipart around! (8 disks)
COUNTACH CLIP ART (3) 3 disks packed full of clipart ! Various subjects.
CURSER BASIC COMPILER Just what you need to speed up basic programs
D-COPY One of the best PD copy utilities available, very user friendly.
DARKSTAR UTILITIES 3 A disk full of assorted useful utilities you may need!
DBW Good PD ray tracing program, some nice pictures ! CLI Knowledge needed.
DEMOLISHER UTILITIES 188 easy to use utilities, something for everyone
DESKBENCH Nice alternative workbench with 2 support disks,Icons+bases (3)
DESKTOP PUBLISHER Printer drivers, English translation now available.
DIRECT ACTION A useful Utility for editing animation sequences.
DISKMASTER 3.0 CLI Utility program, copy files, delete, format disks.
DOPE INTROMAKER Make your own intros with this utility.
DYNAMITE FONT 3 Another popular disk. Stacks of IFF fontscreens. Great !
DYNAMITE FONTS Exellent fonts disk for use in Dpaint etc (Not assignable)
EDUCATION SET (5) Five disks full of educational programs. Very good.
ELECTRO DRAWER If your'e into circuit diagrams etc, try this.
EXILE FONTS More of theses superb fontscreens. For use with Deluxe Paint.
FLEXIBASE DATABASE A simple to use database for the beginner.
FONTS AND RAM MANAGER Lots of fonts plus a software ram switch !
FONTS & SURFACES Lots of useful fonts brushes etc for use in Dpaint!
FRANC MEGAUTILS DISK Plenty of Font Eds and a good boot menu program.
GENESIS DEMO Superb fractal generator, really good!
GRAPHICS UTILITIES Lots of useful graphically orientated programs.
HAMLAB Convert VGA PC pictures to Amiga ham mode with this utility.
HARDDRIVE UTILS Some good utilities for hard drive owners.
ICONMANIA Loads of programs for icon creation & many icons!
ICONS This disk is just crammed with useful & varied icons.
IMPLODER V4.1 Very good compression program, very efficient!
INTERFERON PRO Create protection bootblocks against viruses.
JAZZBENCH A great alternative workbench much preferred by many!
JOURNAL A nice program designed to keep track on your finances.
JR COMM 2.0 Latest version of another superb comms package!
KEFRENS METALLUTION UTILITIES Great util disk full of fonts & more!
KING JAMES BIBLE Old testament & New testament & text reader (4 disks)
LANGUAGES DISK A disk never needed ! Forth, Modula 2, X-Lisp and Logo
M-CAD Computer aided design package uses hi res mode. Good. 1 Meg
MACVIEW 2000 Superb PC emulator needs MS DOS & Workbench. Interesting.
MESSY-SID Easy to use PC - Amiga file transfer program, a superb utility!
MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS PROGRAMS Accounts, Invoicing, Mailing list, Calculator etc!
MORE3 A new updated program for editing sprites and bobs.!
MORSE PROGRAMS Disk full of Morse code programs for radio hams.
MYSTIK HARDWARE ICONS Some more useful hardware orientated icons.
NCOMM v1.92 Latest and best version of this exellent comms package!
NORTH C 1.2 (2) A free version of the compiler with limitations.
NORTH C 1.3 (Packed) The complete C compiler by Steve Hawtin !
PASCAL COMPILER Now becoming a popular language, now available on PD
PC EMULATOR DISK PC emulator needs MS DOS & Workbench. Interesting.
PENDLE EUROPA MEGAUTILITIES 1 An essential collection of over 200 utilities
PENDLE EUROPA UTILITIES 1 Another great compilation by The Red Devil.
PENDLE EUROPA UTILITIES 6 Includes copiers and more utilities
PENDLE EUROPA UTILITIES 9 A very popular utility collection. Try It !
PRINTER DRIVER GENERATOR Design your own printer driver with this program.
PRINTER DRIVER UTILITIES Various non-standard printer drivers.
PRINT STUDIO V1.25 Great utility for accurate printout of pics,text etc
QBASE Database program, Similar to Superbase, Very good facility.
QED A nice easy to use text editor program ! Load, save, print and more
QUICKBENCH Another alternative workbench system, very clever this one!
RAZOR 1911 Graphics rippers, Virus killers, Diskoals. powerpacker & more
RED SECTOR DISK/MAG PC emulator needs MS DOS & Workbench.
RSI VECTOR BALL EDITOR Design vectorballs for use in RSI demomaker
RSI VECTOR DESIGNER Design fresh new vector objects for above.
RSI FONT DESIGNER Give your demos custom designed fonts!
RIM DATABASE Very comprehensive relational database system. Powerful.
ROT A simple 3D object rotation program for your Amiga. Very popular.
SCOPE 114 Structured clipart for desktop publishing etc! Ppage etc!
SCOPE 115 Structured clipart for use in Professional page & Pagestream!
SID V1.6 Newest version of the easy to use CLI utility. Essential !
SOMETHING FOR NOTHING Lots and lot of demo utils, fonts etc. (2)
SOZOBAN C Another very popular C enviroment, similar to North C
ST EMULATOR Run Atari ST software on your Amiga. Needs 2 drives.
SUPER C DISK An new & fast drive ex mem mounting util.
SUPERKILLERS Kills 172 viruses, more than Master Virus2.2. A must!
SUPER WORKBENCH Yet another alternative workbench disk!
TAROT An astrology program for your Amiga.
TEXTPLUS V3.00 One of the best wordprocessors, includes Amigaspell,
TY GRAPHICS Superb Dpaint backdrops and some great fonts. Well recommended
UEDIT Word processing shareware program.
ULTIMATE ICON DISK Contains Iconmeister, Iconlab, Iconmaster & Icons!
ULTRAPAINT 4.0 Another superb program for IFF pictures
UTILITIES COLLECTION Another great collection of utilities about 100 !
UTILITIES DISK 1 Another one for the collection. About 60 or more.
VECTOR DESIGNER A very comprehensive but difficult to use vector designer
VIDEO APPLICATIONS (2) Programs for use with genlocks & videos!
VISICALC SPREADSHEET Easy to use spreadsheet program based on VC.
WINDOWSBENCH A Windows 3/Workbench2 lookalike, very nice. (2 disks)
WORKBENCH UTILS Loads of amusing workbench hacks!
WORDWRITE WORDPROCESSOR Comprehensive wordprocessor with spellchecker.
ZX SPECTRUM EMULATOR Latest version now with sound too!
600 BUSINESS LETTERS Lots of ready made letters for job applications etc.

ANIMATIONS

AEGIS ANIMATIONS 5 anims, Juggler, Plane & Marlyn.
AGATRON 1 Star Fighter flies by, nice.
AGATRON 3 Star Trek - Shuttle fly past
AGATRON 3 Star Trek - Enterprise approaches
AGATRON 7 Star Wars Fighter doing loops etc
AGATRON 9 Star Wars - Fighter fly by, impressive
AGATRON 10 Star Trek - Enterprise in dry dock Good
AGATRON 11 Tron - Tank v Deactivator. Good vectors
AGATRON 12 Tron - Aircraft Not one of the best
AGATRON 13 Misc - Robo 1 A robot waving
AGATRON 14 Star Trek - Enterprise fly by. 3 shots
AGATRON 15 Lotus car, Billiards, & Jet Fighter animations!
AGATRON 17 Star Trek TWOK animation Short but okay
AGATRON 18 Star Trek - Enterprise fly by. Short anim
AGATRON 20 Huey 2 A helicopter leaving a landing pad. Neat. 1 Meg
AGATRON 21 Star Trek Enterprise
AGATRON 24 Kull pen animation & Ping pong. Great!
AGATRON 25 Star Trek - Enterprise fly by. Short anim
AGATRON 26 A ship rocking at sea, / enterprise leaves dock.
AGATRON 30 Contains Hyperspace animation & Landing animation
AGATRON 31 Anim of a Porche riding on the beach 1 meg
AGATRON 32 Space - Space probe flying away
AGATRON 33 Space animation Not good of grey animation & Klingonhit!
AGATRON 34 Star trek the space office - a bit short
AGATRON 35 Space- space probe flying away
AGATRON 36 Star trek Bird of prey, loop the loop.
AGATRON 37 Misc - Tobias goes knackers!
AGATRON ANIM5 5 great short looped animations!
APPLECUS ANIMATION Great anim of an abacus (applecus??)
BAD BRIX ANIMATION Not bad this one.
BASKETBALL A basketball player shooting a ball into the net. 1 Meg
BONGO ANIMATION Animation of a man playing the bongo drums.
BUSY BEE Cute animation of a freaky bee. almost looks wooden. 1 Meg
CLOTHES PEG Bouncing clothes pegs and more. Not bad. 1 Meg
COOL COUGAR A cartoon style anim, tells the story of cool Cougar. 1 Meg
CY1 SPACESHIP A beautiful sculpt 4D anim of a ship circling a globe. 1 Meg
DART ANIMATION Good animation of a dart passing through an egg!
DRAGONS LAIR TIME WARP Animation of the cartoon game by Don Bluth.1 Meg
ERIC-5 AMY VS WALKER Cute and sexy(?) squirrel chasing a Walker. 1.5 Meg
ERIC-5 BATMAN A great animation featuring batman and the joker. 1 Meg
ERIC-5 COTOTE 1 This ones a corker the old coyote up to this tricks 1.5 Meg
ERIC-5 COYOTE STRIKES BACK Not too good this time but still popular. 1 Meg
ERIC-5 MORE AEROTOONS More humourous cartoon capers. Great stuff. 1 Meg
ERIC-5 SHUTTLECOCK Two Space Shuttles playing with a satellite. 1 Meg
ERIC-5 STEALTHY 8 The Mig-29 and Stealthy bomber cartoon. Great. 1 Meg
FRANKLYN THE FLY Great anim of a day in the life of a housefly!
GHOSTBUSTER ANIMATION Anim on the popular ghostbusters theme.
GYMNAST ANIMATION Animation of a gymnast swinging around the bars. 1Me
HAPPY ANIMATIONS HappyMan, TreeFrog, Windwoman and Hammer. All 512
HIGHLANDER SWORD ANIMATION Anim of a Scotsman dancing on swords.
HOLIDAY ANIMATION Not too bad this one.
LAUREL AND HARDY by Brazzel Akins, select your film from the videos. 1 Me
LIGHT CYCLES (2) Huge animation from the Tron film. Excellent. 1 Meg
LUXO TEENAGER Father & son lamp animation converted to the amiga.1 Meg
MAGICIAN 8 this ones a bit better, more glitches this time round. 1 Meg
MAGICIAN Similar to the juggler animation, but not quite as glossy ! 1 Meg
MINER A miner must loading coins into a buggy to be taken anywhere.
MR POTATO HEAD Watch the potato man in cabaret!
NEWTONS CRADLE ray traced animation, plus F-19 and Rocking chair anim
PHARONIA DEMO Another animation of a Pharonia kings mask.
PIANO ANIMATION This is an animation of a cartoony piano!
PORKY PIG ANIMATION Cute anim of the porky pig character with sound!
PROBE SEQUENCE Probe investigates new life forms on a distant planet.1 Me
REAL 3D (3) Superb demo of the effects possible with the Real 3D
REAL THING HORSES demo of the animation package for deluxe paint.
SHUTTLECOCK ANIMATION 2 shuttles playing with a satellite!
THE BONGOS Great anim of 2 Zebedee characters on bongos !
THE JUGGLER the old classic animation that sold hundreds of Amiga's !
THE KNIGHT DIGNAS Animation of a knight jousting with a dragon. 1 Meg
THE WALKER DEMO Helicopter attacking the walker. Film type animation.1 Me
THE WALKER VIDEO 8 Walker Attacking the AD000. Not bad. 1 Meg
UGLY MUG ANIMATION The ugly mug goes for a spin!
UNICYCLE ANIMATION Exellent animation of a unicycle & a car!
WINGS Superb old fashioned biplane animation. Very nice indeed.
ZEUS BUST ANIMATION Animation of a golden bust rotating!

POWER ANIMATIONS !

ANTI LEMMINGS (2) Absolutley brilliant animation ! Get this now ! 2 Meg
AT THE CASTLE Cartoon anim from Eric Schwartz ! Another funny squirrel 1.5Me
AUTOMATED LIGHT (4) Great battlestar galactica type animation. 3 Meg
BUZZED (3) Great animation of a wasp repeatedly stung by things. 2 Meg
DATING GAME (2) Superb new demo from Eric Schwartz, a must see. 3.5meg
DRAGONS LAIR (3) Three meg power demo with sound effects. Great !
GULF WAR ANIM Superb Eric Schwartz, find out what happens to Hussein! 2mg
JUGGLER II Juggler meets Ms.Juggler. Great followup to the original.1.5Meg
LOST IN SPACE (2) Remember the Robot ? It series ? Here is the anim. 2 Meg
LANDING (4) Tobias Richter Poweranim ! Superb ray traced stuff. 4 Meg
STATION MEGABIRI (3) Another superb animation by Tobias Richter anim. 2 Meg
UPGRADE (6) Wow ! Camberwick Green meets the Amiga ! This is GREAT !! Meg
VADX KILLERS (2) An old but quite good 2mg demo 2mg.
WALKER DEMO (2) The 2 disk 2mg version of this classic demo.
WAVE SAILING (2) A nice animation of a wave sailer! 1.5mg

DEMOS

AGONY DEMO Brilliant graphics in this game demo,show it to ST owners.
ALARM MEGADEMO Nice new demo with a good acid type video part !
ALCATRAZ EXCELLENT Another excellent demo from Alcatraz in 3 disks! (3)
ALF DEMO Featuring the cute character from the TV show.
AMOS 3D DEMO Shows you some of the effects that are possible with 3d Am
ANALOGUE MEGADEMO Another new demo from the Analogue crew.
ANARCHY INSPIRATION IS NONE Brilliant demo with some superb ray traced GIs
ANARCHY MADNESS II Demo with Bobs and Filled Vectors, superb music!
ANARCHY SYSTEM VIOLATION Classy demo featuring Vector Bob GIs Cool ic etc.
ANARCHY DIGITAL INNOVATION Their latest and best demo, superb!
ANIMATIONS MEGADEMO A new megademo from the Anarchy crew!
AURORA MEGADEMO Dramatic intro, good music with some Ham bobs
BASS MEGADEMO Great megademo with some housey house music.
BOB CRAZY A disk filled with Bob demos!
BRONX WHAT A RUSH Nice new demo.
CEREBRAL ILLUSION Various megademos with some music video and cartoon sketches
CASCADE MEGADEMO Curious demo with a puzzle and an acid part!
CHAOS ROCK A Megademo to show some of their skills!
COOL FRIDGE a plasma meagdemo, if you like these FX get this one.
CRONICOS MEGADEMO Includes the superb medallion and other demos!
CRONICOS NEVERWHERE Superb demo with a Real world demo and Madonna pics
CRONICOS TOTAL DESTRUCTION Very nice plasma Fx plus a kickin music text
CRUSADERS SPACE DELIRIA Fantastic music by Dr.Awesome & great effects
CRYPTOBURNS HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER Lovely filled vector demo with great music.
DARKNESS MEGADEMO II Another unlimited bobs demo - Do they ever stop.
DANISH KNOW HOW A classic demo!
DEAD DANCE THRASH Amazing thrash metal soundtrack & some weird pics!
DEFJAM INTRO Multipart demo with digitised drums & Rasterbars.
DEVILS LABYRINTH Great new demo with some fab effects, RGB ham plane!
DEVILS MIX Another great multipart demo with some cool FX!
DRAGONS MEGADEMO An old demo but still one of the classics!
ELVIRA DEMO An excellent demo of a very good game!
E P I C megademo Here is a new game by Oxxes, Filled vectors. 1 Meg
ERPLAND (2) Brill kalidescope patterns on this exellent demo & music!
FILLET THE FISH Similar to pogga, but not quite as good.
FRAXION "REVENGE" Cartoon style horror video recorder ! Very funny !
FRAXION FUTURE VISIONS Superb Aliens-type intro plus great pictures
GOLDFIRE OBLIQUE INFINITY Nice megademo with an acid style video at en
GOLDFIRE ULTIMATE FX Another good megademo from Goldfire.
HORIZEN EXPERING BAG Great multipart demo with voices & funky music.
INDIANA JONES DEMO Nice clip of the movie!
IRAQ DEMO Amusing demo of Saddam meeting President Bush ..... Kaboom
INTUITION MEGADEMO Includes a very good acid type section!
KATHARSIS MEGADEMO This is the famous Kaboom demo from Finland!
KEFRENS MEGADEMO VIII This is great plenty of filled vectors and music.(2
KGB MEGADEMO (2) This is great ! A great house music video & vector dmo
LAUREL & HARDY Good demo featuring The Intermezzo song. (2 disks)
MAGNETIC FIELDS HYSTERESIS Excellent vector graphics, plus music!
MAGNETIC FIELDS SPACED OUT (2) Music cover disk with some good tracks
MAXIMUM OVERRIDE (2) Very nicely done filled vector demo by TSB.
MIRAGE MEGADEMO Another good disk, this one copies itself.
MONTY PYTHON (2) Brilliant demo featuring the lumberjack song !
MONTY PYTHON NUDGE NUDGE Another amusing sketch on 2 disks! (2)
NEWTEK DEMO 3 An exellent demo,take your machine to the limit! (2)
NOT THE NINE O CLOCK NEWS Some amusing sketches on these disks (2)
PHENOMENA ECES A very good demo with a light sourced filled vector !!
PHENOMENA INTERSPACE Is time Linear ? Well get this demo and find out
PHENOMENA ENIGMA Absolutely brilliant, one of the all time greats!
PHENOMENA JOYRIDE Another absolute corker of a demo!
PINK FLOYD THE WALL (8) Oh yeah ! A huge demo based on film and songs.

PLASMATRIX Nice demo
PMC ALPHA Another
PUGGS IN TIME Nice
PRISONERS Nice
PULLING THE Nice
PURE MOTION Nice
QUARTEX Superb
RAF MEGADEMO Nice
REBELS MEGADEMO Nice
REBELS COLOURS Nice
REBELS DEMO Nice
REBELS TRIP Nice
REBELS TRIP Nice
RED SECTOR Nice
RED SECTOR Nice
SCORPTOR Nice
SCOOPEX Nice
SHADOW OF Nice
SHINING VECTORS Nice
SILENTS GLOBE Nice
SILENTS ICE Nice
SILENTS MEGADEMO Nice
SIMPSONS Nice
SIMPSONS Nice
SIMPSONS Nice
ST PEPPERS Nice
TECHNOPHILIA Nice
TECHNOPHILIA Nice
TIMEX HYPERDRIVE Nice
TOMSOFT Nice
TOMSOFT Nice
TRIPLE TROUBLE Nice
UNREAL DEMO Nice
WAVEFORM Nice
WAVEFORM Nice
WAVEFORM Nice
WORLD OF Nice
WORLD OF Nice
WORLD OF

...IAN'S DISTRIBUTORS

START

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PLASMUTEX Kickin SoulfSoul music beats plus wild copper and plasma FX !
PAC ALPHA OMEGA An absolutely super 3Dpas filled vector demo. Lovely music !
PUGGS IN SPACE A classic demo, the kids will love it.
PRISONER DEMO Remember the old 60s series? Well heres the Amiga demo
PULLING THE TRIGGER Well laid out set of demos.
PURE METAL CODERS Present fractal demos disk, very nice.
QUARTEX SUBSTANCE Superb demo one of those you simply must have !
R&F MEGADEMO A very nice 2 disk megademo! (2)
REBELS MEGADEMO II An old classic blast from the past!
REBELS COMA This one is a classic ! the best Acid style video on Amiga !
REBELS SNAP A nice demo with spooky style music track, Popular still.
REBELS TRIPLE TROUBLE Nice new demo, + some others.
REBELS OUTLAND Latest demo from the rebels.
RED SECTOR CeBIT 90 An old classic filled vector demo, lovely music
RED SECTOR MEGADEMO (2) Still stood the test of time, very good !
SCIENTISTS 451 MEGADEMO Great megademo with some great soundtracks.
SCOOPEX CHROMIUM Superb demo with great graphics and music.
SCOOPEX MENTAL HANGOVER One of the best demos of all time. get it!
SHADOW OF THE BEAST DEMO Superb demo of a classic game!
SHINING VECTOR EXTERMINATOR Exellent demo, incredible new effects.
SILENTS GLOBAL TRASH This is a MUST for all demo freaks. Mega !!!
SILENTS ICE Latest demo from the Silents. Brilliant music tracks !
SILENTS MEGADEMO Out but still up to scratch, vectors and music !
SIMPSONS BY DECAY With superb animation and a great funky music beat
SIMPSONS EQUINOX Remix of the song & pics of our favorite bare Brits !
SIMPSONS FREEHAND Slideshow with a funky little Bart Simpson soundtrack.
ST PERSEUS LOVE HEARTS Great 60s syle demo from Brazzle Atkins. (2)
TECHNOFLIGHT MEGADEMO Not a bad little megademo. But not all that good.
TECHNOFRIGHT a spooky demo with good music & effects!
TIMES HYPER Great demo that looks like a platform game & good music.
TOMSOFT TRIP TO MARS Old but very good 3D filled vector trip to mars
TOMSOFT VIRTUAL WORLDS An absolute Epic ! Best demo of the year !!!
TRIPLE TROUBLE Brilliant plasma and copper fx with funky music track !!
UNREAL DEMO Superb graphics & sound in this great demo.
UNIVERSAL PICTURES Very impressive filled vector demo in space ++++
VANGELIS DEMO Great music & superb colour cycled graphics. 1mg.
VECTRA SHOWS DEMAND Really good vector demo.
WARFALCONS PURPLE MEGADEMO Another good classic demo.
WITH VECTORS TO THE HEAVEN New demo just in, check it out!
WRATH OF THE DEMON DEMO Another to show off the machines graphic pow-ers.
XRAY MEGADEMO A demo in 6 separate parts.

MUSIC DISKS

100 GREATEST 64 TUNES Over 100 classic 64 tunes imortalised on the Amiga
4MAT CES MUSIC About 10 great songs by 4-mat of Anarchy.
4MAT REFLECTIONS Four or Five good songs again by 4-Mat
ALCATRAZ 'THE POWER' Excellent re-mix of the song by the band Snap.
ALCATRAZ MORE THAN MUSIC A superb music disk very well prepared !
ALCATRAZ SOUNDS OF ENERGY Four Great house music tracks. Worth a lis-ten.
AMAZING TUNES II (3) This ones a biggy loads of great music by SAE.
AMEGA PARTY WINNERS Four EXCELLENT songs that won the Amega party contest.
AMIGA CHART BLACK BOX, QUEEN The invisible man and Ride on time. Remixed
AMIGADEUS CLASSICAL Superb renditions of Eine Kleiner etc. By Rob Baxter.
ANARCHY CAPTURED IMAGINATION SOme very nicely presented music by 4-Mat
BANGING RAVES Yeah ! Pump up the music, kickin remix of some house tracks
BEAT SOMES Groove suspect, three great tunes, all tunes.
BEATLES SONIX Lots of Beatles music done in Sonix!
BEATMASTER ULTIMATE Cubik and more of this type of music from 808 State.
BEATMASTER I LOVE TECHNOLOGY More of the rare type music of Sonic Boom.
BRUNO'S MUSICBOX II This is great really Funky music with jazz influences.
BRUNOS MUSIC BOX III Some superb jazzfunk music on this 2 disk set.(2)
CLASSICAL MUSIC Great music of Bach, Handel etc from Rob Baxter.
CLASSICAL MUSIC II Another great classical music disk.
CRUSADERS BACTERIA Great music disk one of the best ever!
CRUSADERS ADVOCK Another classic music disk, great music.
DEPECHE MODE MUSIC Nice soundtracked disk of their music!
DHOB MUSIC 3 A Great quality house music re-mix. One for the collection.
DHOB MUSIC 4 (2) PopMusic, PumpUpTheJam and more great house tracks
DIGITAL CONCERT 2 Thirteen minutes of music, Doctor'in the house & more
DIGITAL CONCERT 3 Another house music re-mix Great quality - Love it !
DIGITAL CONCERT 4 Four songs including Got to keep on - Brilliant !!!
DIGITAL CONCERT 5 The Power, Kaos, Keep Bustin, and Touch Me. Brilliant !
DIGITAL CONCERT 6 Latest in the series, very good quality House music mix.
DIGITAL DEBUSSY Great classical music from Rob Baxter, Clair de lune etc.
DIGITAL DEBUSSY 2 More great Debussy tracks on this 2nd disk.
DO THE BARTMAN (3) The Chart topping song sampled onto three disks. Brill !
DANCE MUSIC MIX NO 1 Great music disk, neat !
EQUAMANIA II Demo with a great dance music track and fab equalizers !
EVIL FORCES Brand new mega acid/house music demo (some swearing!)
Oldies
HELLOWEEN DEMO Great screaming rock guitar demo! (2 disks)
GENESIS LAND OF CONFUSION A sample of the well known track.
GOLDFIRE CEREBRAL DELIGHTS (2) Two disks of music with tape selector.
GROOVE IS IN THE HEART Remix of the song by DeeLite, if you like the song.
JARRE DOCKLANDS The keyboard wizard, sampled and on your amiga. Great !
JUSTIFY MY LOVE Remix of Madonna song plus more mixed in!
LEMMO JUKEBOX Two ones super ! Lovely music with a Juke box Selector
LSD DONT PANIC Superb new music disk, exellent quality music.
MADONNA VOGUE (4) Sampled remix of the song, good quality sample too.
MAGNETIC FIELDS CHIP FESTIVAL Crammed full of great music!
MAMAS OF NOISE This is brilliant ! Great stevie wonder type music !
MAW VICE DEMO Completed music + a digitised girl
NAGEL PICS Some nice pictures from a well known artist.
NEW BEATS DISK Headbanger demo ! Beats in time to the music !
NT MUSIC I Collection of tantastic ripped music, by various artists.
NT MUSIC II A great collection of ripped music here.
NT MUSIC III Another great collection of ripped music by fw. Well cool.
PHENOMENA MUSIC DREAMS I Twenty wicked songs by twins of Phenomena.
PHENOMENA MUSIC DREAMS II Second in the series More superb music !
POPEYE MEETS THE BEACHBOYS Great demo very funny !
REMIX II 4 really fab songs on this one, very good.
RAZOR FACE ANOTHER DAY This is an incredible music track!
RHAPSODY IN BLUE Great conversion of Gershwin music by Rob Baxter! 1mg.
SILENTS BLUES HOUSE (2) Tangerine Dream style music. With game. Brilliant !
SILENTS FULL POWER House it up music. Includes Remix of tricky disco.
SOUND OF SILENTS This is a must for Jeepster fans. Jeeper Kyd music !!
STAR DREK SAMPLED (2) Amusing mickey take of Star Trek. Great for a Laugh!
TALK TO THE TREES Another very funny sampled music/Comedy track.
TECHNOTRONIC REMIXES Pump Up the Jam and Get Up - they really shine !
TECHNOTRONIX REMIX All of their songs remixed into one great track !
THE SOUNDS OF SHOME Mahoney and Kaliha music disk. 46 great tunes.
TMEORCLE MUSIC More Commodore 64 style music. Very good
VIALDI - FOUR SEASONS (2) Superb rendition of 4 seasons by Rob Baxter
XARCH 1 Great music tracks inc, Itsy bitsy,ah no Timmy Mallet ARGHHHH!
XARCH 2 Another great pack of exellent tunes!
XARCH 3 More good quality tunes on this compilation.
XARCH 4 This is the latest disk, good quality as usual.

SLIDESHOWS

ADDAMS FAMILY The Addams family started when Uncle Fester ... (Ermm .. No!)
ADVANCE HAM A collection of brilliant digitised pictures with funky music.

AGATRON 5 Some superb HAM pictures, created by Tobias Richter.
AGATRON 6 Incredible 4096 color ray traced slideshow. Get this one !
AGATRON 8 Excellent HAM pictures, with some good music too. Mega !
AGATRON 9 More of Tobias Richters superb works, again based on Star
AGATRON 12 Some more great pictures on this new disk.
AIRCRAFT SLIDE Lots of pictures of fighter aircraft.
ASTRONOMY SLIDE Nice pics of constellations, galaxies nebulae etc!
AUSTRALIAN SLIDE Lots of pics of Australia in 32 colours.
BORIS VAJELIO (2) Pictures digitised from works by the Artist. Nice.
BORN TO BE FREE Picture of wild animals this time. Very good quality
BUTTERFLIES (2) High quality slideshow of butterflies, by Weird Science.
C64 ART Lots of pictures of the Commodore 64 in digitised form.
CHAINSAW SLIPPERS This one is Great, the pictures are naff but blast-
CHRIS HILL Lots more pics from a great artist!
COLOURCYCLES A slideshow of colour cycled pictures. Very impressive.
CREEP SHOW Horror image type pictures, Eddie and more. Not music too.
DARKLORD SLIDESHOW Lots of pictures in the Dungeon Master style.
DEBBY HARRY SLIDESHOW Some nice pictures of 70s popstar (2 disks)
DOMINIK S Slideshow of pictures from C-Days of Demonix, with music to back.
DESERT ISLAND SLIDESHOW Lots of nice pictures on this disk.
DIVINE VISIONS (2) A slideshow of Mythological gods with music to back.
DR WHO SLIDESHOW Piccies of Dr Who and the infamous Daleks!
FINN TASTIC VOL 1 Picture show of Twin peaks star Sherylin Fenn.
FORBIDDEN PLANET Nice slide with story text of cult 50s Sci fi film!(2)
FRAXION FUTURE VISION Great fantasy slideshow especially for lo res.
GARFIELD Digitised slideshow of the cartoon hero by Jim davis.
GENOCIDE great fantasy slide with unusual fades & wipes & soundtrack.
GERMAN RAY TRACE High quality ray traced pictures by a german artist.
GRUSEL SLIDE Eerie fantasy slide from Cybernetic Vision.
HARRY ENFIELD SLIDESHOW A slideshow of Harry Enfield & Smith & Jones.
HEROIC DREAMS SLIDESHOW 1 More great fantasy art pics from Pendle Europe.
HEROIC DREAMS SLIDESHOW 2 More great fantasy art pictures
HEROIC DREAMS SLIDESHOW 3 And yet more great fantasy pictures.
INVISIBLE WORLD Not one for people scared of creepy crawly creatures !
IRON MAIDEN SLIDESHOW Digitised pics of Iron maiden & more!
JIMI HENDRIX SLIDESHOW Great slideshow of the rock legend (2)
JOE SLIDESHOW 1 Very good quality slideshows drawn in Dpaint, by Joe/SCX
JOE SLIDESHOW 2 More pictures by Joe. Check them out for yourself.
KELLY SLIDESHOW Some excellent quality HAM pictures. Various subjects.
KIM WILDE SLIDESHOW Lots of pics by ready in black & white.
MADONNA SLIDESHOW Lots of pictures but needs 1 mg & 2 drives (disks)
MADONNA DICK TRACY SLIDE Quite nice slideshow. (2)
MILLER LITE Pictures and music from the TV advert for Miller Lite lager
NAGEL PICTURES Great hi res pictures from a famous artist.
NAPALM DEATH SLIDE This one is for over the top moshers only!
NASA SLIDES 1 Picture of the space shuttle landing etc. Not bad.
NASA SLIDES 2 More pictures this time viewed from space. good !
NEWTEK DYNAMIC HAM A slideshow of Newteks new 4096/512 in 4096 colors.
NEXT PIXILIUM Very nice pictures all done in Dpaint plus some music.
NIGHTBREED Yukky slideshow from the film. Music suits the pictures !
NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET SLIDESHOW Lots of pics with you freddy fans (2 disks)
NIK WILLIAMS Some very well digitised pictures from the synthwaver.
NW DYNAMIC HAM More from the Nik Williams series. Incredible quality.
PENTAGON & DRIFTERS Very high quality Hi-res B/W fantasy pictures.
PHOTOMONTAGE 1 Slideshow of various subjects very nicely done.
PHOTOMONTAGE II Another great slide of various subjects.
POP STAR PICTURES Lots of Mel & Kim, Madonna, Curiosity & Pet shop boys!
RICK PARK'S ART Dpaint style pictures all done in Hi Resolution.
ROGER DEAN Digitised pictures by the artist all in HAM mode. Good.
SILENTS/CH 42 (2) The new Silents slideshow. Great music track.
SPACE BUBBLES Great fantasy art pictures in interlaced ham.
SUPER HAM DISK Superb digitised slideshow in interlaced HAM. Beautiful !
SUN CONNECTION SLIDE Great ray traced pictures on this disk.
THE FABULOUS STORY OF TOBIAS RICHTER Two slideshows of some
TOTAL RECALL Music and pictures from the Arnie's Sci fi film. Great !
TERMINATOR 2 SLIDE Great slide of a great film! (2)
TRAVELLER SLIDESHOW Lots of pictures drawn in Dpaint by the Traveller.
VAX SLIDESHOW Pictures downloaded from a vax system. Very nice indeed.
VIC REVIEW Pics from the sampled music - You wouldnt let it be !
WATERSHIP DOWN Cute side of those rabbits, great for the kids.
WRESTLE MANIA (2) Outstanding digitised pics and animations. Pretty good.
WWF WRESTLERS Pictures of Hulk Hogan and the rest of them. Good quality.
YABBADABBA DOO Hey Hey Hey its the flintstones ! Wilma, fred and the rest.

MUSIC UTILITIES & MIDI

ALGORYTHMS Midi program for synthetic music creation.
ART OF MED Disk full of Med music & instruments.
ASSASSINS AUDIO MAGIC Collection of soundtrackers and ripping programs
ASSASSINS MUSIC UTILITIES Collection of soundtracker programs!
CASIO CZ EDITOR Superb program + 250 patches for Casio CZ series synths.
DELUXE MIDI BASS Midi bass guitar program (Needs Deluxe music)
FUTURE COMPOSER A chip music sequencer. Complies to use, but good
GAMES MUSIC CREATOR A music sequencer, similar to soundtracker.
IFF SAMPLE CONVERTER Converts 8svx files to 1 digital synth!
JAMCRACKER Four channel chip music sequencer. Also handles sampled sounds
KAWAI K1 Editor for changing your patches on your keyboard
KAWAI K1 Two more patches for your k1, a patch editor for k1 synths.
MED 3.2 Very latest version of this superb sequencer. Great !
MED MUSIC DISK Some nice med music on this disk
MIDI DSK Comprehensive midi disk for most synth owners
NOISETRACKER Music sequencer used by the pros. Stacks of superb functions in-
NOISETRACKER-EXECUTEABLE Convert your modules to a stand alone pro-gram.
PERFECTSOUND SAMPLER Nice sample edit program with some samples!
ROLAND D110 + S220 Converter program,convert Roland samples to IFF.
SAMPLES DISK Over 1 MEG of various disks containing hi-fi samples.
SOUNDTRACKER 2.6 New release of this popular program, new editing screen
SOUNDTRACKER Superb four channel sequencer everybody uses this one !
SOUNDTRACKER COMPILATION Compilation of sound and noisetracker pro-grams
ST-00 BEAST SAMPLES Lovely panflute sounds from Beast and Beast II
ST-90 SAMPLES DISK Studio quality samples, drums, bass, snares and more
ST-91 SAMPLES DISK Studio quality samples, drums, bass, snares and more
ST-92 SAMPLES DISK Studio quality samples, drums, bass, snares and more
ST-93 SAMPLES DISK Studio quality samples, drums, bass, snares and more
YAMAHA DX7 VOICE FILER Program for DX7 series synthesisers
YAMAHA DX7 VOICE SORTER For the above program.

AMOS PUBLIC DOMAIN

APD2 TREASURE SEARCH Find the buried treasure in this fun game
APD2 FORMS REALLY UNLIMITED a Great form designer program
APD2 ARCADIA A nice version of the popular breakout game
APD76 RAINBOW WARRIOR Paint with coppers and save them out!
APD83 AMOS PAINT V2.7 Nice paint package in 2-64 colours.
APD86 REVERSI + SNAKES & LADDERS 2 well known games
APD96 PAIR IT Match the cards to make a pair,easy to play 1mh
APD97 DYNAMITE DICK Nice little amos game+ living slideshow
APD103 PICK UP A PUZZLE Nice jigsaw puzzles in 3 levels
APD104 PICK UP A PUZZLE Datadisk for above.
APD105 INVERSE DEMO 8 BIRDS OF PREY Nice slideshow
APD110 CROSSFIRE Nice game, keep the kids occupied for ages.
APD115 BALLOONACY Good version of the classic 'Bomber' game.

ALL PUBLIC DOMAIN DISKS ARE NOW ONLY 99p WHEN YOU ORDER TEN OR MORE !

APD130 THE WOODEN BALL A shareware game 1mb
APD132 FAMILY HISTORY DATABASE Nice geneology program 1mb.
APD135 SIMON & SPACE MATHS 2 educational games on this disk.
APD137 TILE TRAIL Sliding tile puzzle to solve within a time limit
APD138 SHAPES TUTOR Good if you need to learn Spanish
APD139 MASTER RACE A card game set in outer space
APD148 DEMOLITION MISSION Monitor version of popular bomber game.1mb
APD153 MSDOS 2 COMMAND Main version of the old classic!
APD166 PICK UP A PUZZLE Datadisk 3
APD167 JIGMAKE Datadisk 1 (needs LPD13)
APD176 DATABASE MASTER V2.0 Nice database program, needs 1mb
APD180 DOMINION DELVER Roam round mazes collect keys etc (2 disks)
APD181 DUNGEON DELVER DISK 2
APD182 PIXIE KINGDOM Another good exploration game on 2 disks
APD183 PIXIE KINGDOM DISK2
APD190 BLACKBELT Chop the blocks in this martial arts game
APD198 ROMS FROM BAGDAD/PROGNOSIS SON
APD205 R-DRAW 1.46 Another well laid out drawing package.
APD219 JIGMANIA Datadisk 2
APD220 JIGMANIA Datadisk 3
APD221 AMOS BINGO/CRACK THE CODE 2 games on this disk.
APD229 AMOS MULTIPAINT Another Multi paint program!
APD230 AMOS ASTEROIDS Four versions of the asteroids game.
APD231 AMOS LANDER Is trapped in a strange world 1mg
APD237 SHAPES Very nice little puzzle game.
APD238 A.I.M. a picture convertor & image processor!
APD254 HISTORY Dragons, Battle, Adrian & 80+ 4 games.
APD257 CASSETTE LABELLER + MIXED SOURCE Make your own cassette la-bels
APD271 WIZARDS DOMAIN Nicely done graphical adventure game
APD284 AMOS MAGIC Nice anagram program.
APD292 WAR OF THE FOUR A Shareware graphic adventure game
APD 293 GRAND PRIX SIMULATOR Not a race game,more of a simulation.

De Ja Vu Licenseware £3.50 Each

LPD1 COLOURING BOOK Colour in the nursery rhyme pictures
LPD2 ARC ANGEL MATHS An educational game to help kids with maths
LPD3 GALLEONS Follow up to the popular dogfight II game.
LPD4 THINKIMAGIC Superb jigsaw style game for kids, easy to use
LPD5 JUNGLE BUNGLE Icon driven adventure game for the kids
LPD6 PUKADIA & SPRITES Avoid all the baddies as you remove the tiles
LPD7 FOUR WAY LYNX A 22 level puzzle to tiles to a main center tile
LPD8 WORK A BLAY 3 really good educational games on this disk.
LPD9 AMOS ASSEMBLY Shows how this dak requires AMOS to run.
LPD10 THE WORD FACTORY Great program helps the kids to spell
LPD11 GO-KETTER A card game where you have to pass go.
LPD12 HYPNOTIC LANDS catch balls coming down four different lanes
LPD13 JIGMANIA A jigsaw solving puzzle & a jigsaw construction kit
LPD14 PLAY IT SAFE For the very young, helps to teach safety at home
LPD15 ARC ANGEL SHAPES Make pictures from a variety of shapes
LPD16 REVERSI II New improved version of Reversi
LPD17 DOGFIGHT II Up to an 8 player shootemup game. Great!
LPD18 TOUCHSTONES An adobe type game played with tiles
LPD19 X-T-50 Shoot objects across the screen
LPD20 WORDY A basic Amosware wordprocessor program, quite good
LPD21 SPACE INVADERS quiz game in which you play Bingo
LPD22 LC10 FONTS New fonts for your Star LC10 / LC200 printer
LPD23 QUAKE The latest in the series.
LPD24 SHINING WAY OF KUNG FU 2 disk game with good graphics(5.50)
LPD25 THE MISSION A great text adventure written in HiSoft basic
LPD26 CYAD Collect the diamonds in this puzzle game
LPD27 FLOWER POWER grow flowers before bugs munch them away.
LPD28 BUDDASE Simple to use database with tutorial
LPD29 BIG TOP FUN 4 great educational games for younger children
LPD30 SHOGUN Graphic adventure game for young or old.
LPD31 CLI PRINTER DUMP Prints a screen dump of the screen display
LPD32 HARD DRIVE GAMES SYSTEM Nice menu of over 3,000 items.
LPD33 CREATIVE ADVENTURE TOOLKIT Produce stand alone adventures
LPD34 INVOICE PRINTER Quick production of invoices on paper
LPD35 T-TECH DRAW Superb drawing program with print facilities
LPD36 FRACGEN II Great fractal program generator
LPD37 ROCKET MATHS Help children in maths with this game
LPD38 AMOS ART Contains lots of fonts,bobs,sprites & scenery blocks
LPD39 MAGIC CONVERT 9 Great sideways scrolling platform game
LPD40 SPRITE BANK Contains 1,000 sprites ready to use.
LPD41 RESCUE A 3D adventure game done with 3D construction set
LPD42 X-STITCH Print out plus for embroidery, cross stitch documents
LPD43 LAZERZONE A very nice shoot em up game.
LPD44 PRIMULA CHALLENGE Nice road racing game.
LPD45 MUSIC BOX A music program for children of 7 upwards.
LPD46 MAGPIES CLIPART Lots of clipart, unavailable elsewhere.
LPD47 SUP Combat the aliens in this shoot-em-up!
LPD48 SPARX'S STICKING FILLERS 3 great seasonal Xmas games!
LPD49 MAGPIES CLIPART 2 More clipart, Animals, People, Food etc!
LPD50 MAGPIES CLIPART 3 More clipart, Animals, People, Food etc!
LPD51 MAGICAL YOUNG ARTIST Contains 30 stencils to colour in!
LPD52 LC24/200 FONTS Same as LPD2 but for 24 pin printers!
LPD53 MAGPIES CLIPART 3 162 pieces, Xmas, People, Scenes tools etc!
LPD54 MAGPIES CLIPART 4 189 pieces, Cartoons plants Insects birds etc!
LPD55 SPRITEX V1.32 New sprite editor, superior to original editor!
LPD56 CTEXT V1.23 and 1.3 for programmers, use Icon bank based fonts!

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ALL DISKS ARE 100% PERFECT

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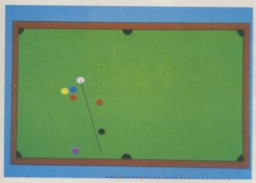
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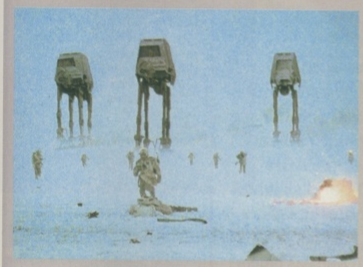
MEGABLITZ

The Megagames compilations go from strength to strength. Volume II, disk 3, features *Trix*, a nifty *Qix* variant, and a more-than-competent text adventure which has you exploring a strange new world in search of alien life. There's also a Pool sim which, while not in the same league as Virgin's *Jimmy White's Snooker*, is a competent ball game. The cue ball is aimed by moving the mouse in the required direction. This draws out a line radiating from the cue ball and the overall length of this line determines the strength of the shot.

Strictly PD, Disk G215C ★★

ADVENTURES IN HELL

Fans of the much-maligned text adventure will no doubt get a kick out of this collection of six such games to play. *Jedi*, *Star Trek*, *Atlantis*, *Ring World* and *Safari* obviously give some indication as to the type of adventures each contain, but I'll leave you to work out what *Grungy Towers* is all about for yourself. All the adventures are fairly detailed and easy to get in to. If you've never had a go at one before, now's your chance.



Ground Zero, Disk G42, ★★★★★

PDTOP TEN

A-Animation S-Sound U-Utility
G-Game M-Miscellaneous

1 Gulf Conflict **A**
2 WWF Slideshow **M**
3 Nu **G**
4 Humdinger the Revenge **G**
5 Adventures of Norris **G**
6 Hypnotic Hammer II **S**
7 Shamen Remix **S**
8 Atlantys Slideshow **M**
9 Ray of Hope 2 **M**
10 Megad! **M**

Compiled by CU Amiga

THE RETURN OF CHUCK

Just to prove you can't keep a good guy down, Steve Packer has resurrected his Chuck cartoon character for a special festive greeting to all of his many fans. Nice one. *Not available.*



DEMO OF THE MONTH



LOST SLIDESHOW OF ATLANTYS

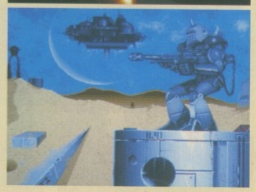
French group, Atlantys, have released a cracking slideshow of their members' work. Amongst a massive selection of quality pics are illustrations of Wolverine from the X-Men, those irascible Lemmings, Strider and many other heavily-armed warriors. Definitely one of the best slideshows we've seen in a long time.

17 Bit, Disk 1444 ★★★★★









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D320 Horror Show X
D448 Mr Potato Head In The Chips Are Up
D316 Maria Whittaker Anim
D129 Maria Whittaker Slideshow
D313 Paradise Picture Show X
D436 PD Animations
D413 Perverse Slideshow
D415 Pretty Girls
D435 Rambo Slides
D432 Rowan Atkinson
D303 Saucy Postcards X
D328 Showering Girls X
D269 Simpsons Slideshow
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D121 Star Trek Animation
D419 Star Trek Mega Demo (2 Disks-2 Drives (1Mb)
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D321 Strip Slot Machine X
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DEMOS

DRAGON STRIKE

AD&D enthusiasts who tried their hand at SSI's *Dragon Strike* might like to take a peek at Sacred's new slideshow which includes flying dragons, warriors, knights, demons and other characters drawn from the aforementioned 'Dragon warfare simulator'. The disk has been put together with some panache and features a groovy soundtrack to accompany the pics.

17 Bit, Disk 1449, ★★★★★





BRAINSTORM

Have you got what it takes to be an egghead? Are you a budding Einstein, Plato, Aristotle or Leonardo DeVinci? Now's your chance to find out with this intriguing intelligence test program which sets brain-straining questions covering a wide range of problems, including spatial, logic and observation tests. Once you've completed a section, the computer will calculate your IQ and show how you compare to the rest of the population. Needless to say, but the CU crew scored well-above average, except for Steve Merrett who's still trying to learn joined-up writing and tie his boot-laces.

17 Bit, 1438, ★★★

BUGS IN THE BED

The Invisible World takes a look at all all those nasty slime-ridden bugs the size of microscopic pin-heads that lurk in every dark recess. Particularly nasty are the magnifed pics of two-fanged beasties that make their nest in the human skin and live of our blood until they become so bloated that they fall off, keel over and die. What a way to go!

Strictly PD, D462, ★★



'ZINE SCENE



The Amiga is blessed (or damned) with a large number of disk-based mags. One of the best has to be TCS's *Scanner* magazine. Issue four is now out and features Imploder 4.0, a menu maker, three Saddam virus killers, a music ripper, a two-player strategy game, Phenomena's *Joyride* demo and assorted features on the A500 Plus, a beginner's guide to Workbench and lots of news and gossip about everyone's favourite machine. *TCS*, ★★★★

The Crusaders latest Eurochart disk is currently on release. If you've never come across one before, each issue is crammed with charts of all the latest games and demos and full of news about all the different groups on the circuit. If you want to get involved in the scene, now's your chance. *NBS*, ★★

Jean-us Pannonius, who works for Computer Mania, Hungary's premier computer magazine, kindly sent me number 11 of *Brainstorm* magazine. It's a text base mag with an entry on almost everything. The news section was especially informative, covering EA's upcoming *Deluxe Paint 4 Plus* programme and the new A4000.Put this one on your must buy list. A *Bit On The Side*, ★★★★

MATHS WIZARD

After my plea for more educational software, I received the excellent *Maths Wizard* from Virus Free. This brilliant program is split up into four sections. You can either visit a magic Wizard, go fishing with an Elf, ride a dragon or collect a bunch of toys from a Troll. Each part mixes a variety of sums with some animated fun. For instance, on one level you're seated on a flying dragon and, for each sum correctly answered, your steed advances towards a faraway palace. Even better is the Troll's toyshop which is absolutely stuffed with goodies. Each correct answer is rewarded with a toy plane, teddy bear, marbles or other toys. At a guess, this one's aimed at three to seven year olds. Virus Free, Disk 2068, ★★★



NU TO YOU

Vertically-scrolling shoot 'em ups are ten-a-penny on the Amiga. Unfortunately, most of the PD ones aren't up to much. *Nu*, from Virus Free, is set to change all that. Although the scenario is awfully clichéd – blast off and strike a mortal blow against the evil Tryto empire – the actual game offers a fair test of your reflexes as you seek to skillfully negotiate the aliens' mothership and successfully crush the on-coming battle ships. Virus Free, Disk 2030, ★★★



LIKE CLOCKWORK



Never one to shy away from controversy, Demos' regular, Brazzle Atkins, has produced a demo based on the controversial film, A Clockwork Orange. The original movie has been banned in this country for some time, due to its explicit sexual and violent content, so chances are that most people have never seen Kubrick's acclaimed masterpiece. So, what better way to get around the censor's ban, than a slideshow with images directly culled from the film, accompanied by text taken from Anthony Burgess' novel. Some of the digitised images are a bit ropey, but the overall effect is quite atmospheric, especially if you put a bit of Beethoven on the CD to accompany the show. For more info, write to Brazzle c/o Orbis Publishing Ltd., Griffin House, 161 Hammersmith Road, London W6 8SD. ★★★



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066 Franklyn the Fly
071 Gymnast Animation*
076 Amy V's Walker*
081 Shuttle cock Anim*
086 Bugs Bunny Anim*
091 Smurf+Cokeman Anim*
096 Super Woman Anim*
101 Magician Anim 2*
106 Nude Girls Anim*
111 Basketball Anim*
116 Stealthy II*
121 Unicycle Anim
126 Wings*
131 Bongo Anim
136 Holiday Anim
141 Piano Anim
146 CXI Spaceship-Good

DEMOS

002 Alcatraz Mega Demo (3)
006 Zed Demo Comp 19
012 Budrain I (2)
017 Budrain II
022 Red Sector Demo (2)
027 Intro Compilation 45
032 The Adaams Family
037 Silents Slideshow (2)
042 Sickness Simulator
047 Fast Cars Slideshow
052 Boxer Demo
057 Anarchy
062 A**E Wipe Demo (x)
067 Blood Sport
072 Madonna Demo
077 Madonna Slideshow
082 Viz Slideshow
087 Trip to Mars
092 Space Balls Demo
097 Total Confusion*
102 Chubby Brown
107 No Brain no Pain (2)
112 Newtek Demo 3 (2)
117 Not 9 Oclock news
122 Universal Pictures
127 ALF Demo
132 Wrestlemania (2) - Good
137 WWF Wrestlers
142 German Impatraced Pics
147 Unreal Demo

MUSIC

003 Turn the Bass (2)
008 Supreme Sounds
013 Bacteria-Excellent
018 Mega Concert-Fabmusic
023 Supreme Sounds Vol II
028 Power Surg-Music
033 Pump up the Volume
038 Noisetracker (scope)
043 808 State Remixes
048 What time is love?*
053 KLF 3AM Eternal Mix
058 KLF Last Train (3)
063 Technotronic
068 "19"
073 Mel+Kim-Madonna
078 Can't Touch This
083 8 Channel Soundtracker
088 Freek'd Out
093 Amiga Chart 3
098 Ride on Time-Batdance
103 Pet Shop Boys Remix 1
108 Pet Shop Boys Remix 2
113 Madonna Spanky
118 Phenomena Music
123 Evil Forces (2)
128 Classical-Vivaladi (2)
133 Silents Full Power.
138 LSD Dont Panic
143 Banging Raves
148 Zarch 4

UTILITIES

004 A-Z Utilities D
009 168 Utilities D
014 ST Emulator (2D
019 Boot+Virus Util
024 Ghostwriter-Int
029 Red Sector Demo
034 IBM PC Emulato
039 Wordwright-Wor
044 Messydos-FileTr
049 Dcopy-Good Disc
054 C-Light-Ray Tr
059 North C Comp
064 DICE-C Packag
069 Jazzbench-Works
074 Kwickbackup-Ha
079 C Manual V2.0(
084 Electro cad
089 M-CAD-CAD
094 PCQ Pascal-Pasc
099 Fractal Scape
104 Red Devil Usp
109 Desk top Publi
114 Animated Poet
119 Printer Utilities
124 Amibase 3.7a
129 Pennywise-Hotke
134 MED V3.11
139 Viscalc Spreads
144 System Checke
149 A68K Assembl

005 Drip+Noisetracker	010 Arcade Games	015 Eat Mine	020 PD Game Compila
025 Frantic Freddy	030 Return to Earth	035 Twintris	040 ST Bash
045 Speccy Emulator+Games	050 Megaball	055 Star Trek-Shoot em up	060 Master of Tows
065 3D Tetris	070 Missile Command	075 Boing	080 Battle Pong
085 Tennis*	090 Yelp	095 Train Construction	100 Treasure Search
105 Peters Quest-Platfrm*	110 Dragons Cave	115 Aracdia	120 Bionix II
125 Popeye	130 Space Games-* Games	135 B.Rodgers+Rasta Bikes	140 Party Games (x)

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VARIOUS UTILITIES

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ADPRAINT ART Contains loads of pictures for your printer.
AMIGA TY GRAPHICS, VIDEO GRAPHICS (8) Two background screens for your video action other utilities. Different types ofgraphic tool - takes an IFF Picture peel down the onscreen layers.
AN VIDEO PRODUCTION (2) Both disks are packed with video & genlock utilities.
ANIPOS UTIL'S No 1 : D-Copy, Music grabber, Font maker & picture ripper.
ANIMABASE V3.76 This is the Most popular Video database. Very good
ANIMFONT STUDIO Excellent for printing pictures out to Printer users. An excellent program for all owners. inc other utils.
ANTI-C-LIGHT This is the most well known ray tracing program on the Amiga to date.
ANTI-VIRUS COLLECTION full with virus checkers & killers. Excellent options. Includes search disk.
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE Contains **(2)** disks which includes **CBM, IBM-PC & ST** IBM & Atarms recognises two disk drives.
ASDG ART MASTER An excellent Hard disk back up. Ideal for all or any part of the drive.
ASDG DIAMOND BACK Excellent copying program. Has SYPC Graphics to the Amiga
AUTO PATH (2) WB 1.3 Install to speed up your workbench operations. replaces your standard path in workbench disk.
AUTOSCRIPT 3.2 Copys files from one directory to another. **DISKAVV** corrects & repairs **BAD MED** Format Medium & Low Density disks & Med up Disk 2 packed with Med modules.
BIG TEXTPLUS VERSION 3.0 This disk is not just a data turbo program but a word processor.
BOOT DUPLICATION & BACKUP: Super Duplication, Copy, Nibbler & Fast new copiers for your programs for save keeping.
BRAINWAVE 2000 Is a Brain Game that Globes, Is & Mercator Pictures of the Earth.
BTH DICE C SYSTEM (2) Dilitons Inter-grated Development system.
BTH DISKPRINT V2.7 Prints labels for 3.5 disks, Very small Full Library.
BTH FORTRAN - 77 V1.3c Compiler, Linker & run support library. (437)
BTH CROSSWORD CREATOR A Program that makes crosswords. UPDATED VERSION!
BTH DISK MAGAZINE Packed with managing and finances. V1.1(3)
BTH MCAD PROGRAM The Object Drawing tool for the Amiga ie CAD
BTH EDUCATIONAL/TYPING TUTOR A Simple to teach Program.
BTH DISK RAY TRACING PROGRAM New Tracer explorer Disk
BTH POSTSCRIPT INTERPRETER V1.5 An Interpreter for printers based on PC Amiga.
BTH ED'S MED MUSIC MODULES Themes for your modules an excellent
BTH NORTH C V1.2 (2) Unprotected Version of the C programming program.
BTH OF THE BEST DISK HINT BOOK Inc Strategy & Solution
BTH SCIENTIFIC BACK HINT BOOK Inc Strategy & Solution.
BTH SOUND TRACKER CONVERTER Converts modules in executables.
BTH MESSY SID Converts/Transfers Amiga Text form any Amiga Message.
BTH AMIGA PUNT PROGRAM Horse racing form program for the amiga.
BTH KING JAMES VERSION OF THE BIBLE Inc Strategy & Solution
BTH TRANSFORMER V3.3 This is the latest and the IBM Emulator disk
BTH TYPE TO SPEECH FOR DATA DISK 1: Inc Classics needs V216 or V443
BTH CLIP ART COLLECTION Eight more disks packed with excellent clip art. **(8)**
BTH ISO 11.06: Replaces the CLI command line & with many more features.
BUSINESS CARD MAKER Design your own Business cards & print them.
CADISH HOUSE MUSIC SAMLES III & EMF Many More Music Samples
CPM DS UTILITIES No 13 Free Copy, Removes the games copy protection so that the user can make their own back ups. Ideal for the novice user. Disk-Cat. Can creator your own disk catalogue, creates some excellent screen dumps. **Nuke.** Kills the Latest virus
GENESIS (2) Create, edit or mould any space fractal. various types (IFF50)
GP DS UTIL'S/14 Music based collection this time. Has real command to make the New Replay Player. The latest **Multi Player** program, which will play any Music in any format. Some **Modules** for these programs, & **New instruments.**
GRAPHICS PLAYING MODULES Collection 1 These are very well presented (3 Disks)
GS 600 BUSINESS LETTERS There are over 600 business letters that can be used as a or insert some parts into your own letters/text.
GS 1ST TEXT EDITOR Running Man & Simples & sound Fx. **(8 Disks)**
GS QUICKBENCH Loads as workbench & your normal workbench.
GS DESK TOP PUBLISHING PROGRAM The Desk Top Publishing program
GS various extra features over the old Word Perfect Text Editor. Graphics editor & loads more
GS AMICASH The best bank program that I have used on the amiga. easy controls
GS UTIL'S No 15: Boot Games. The idea is to send two games onto your disks bootblock.
GS and Breaker, very simple to use. **BootGen.** Another boot program. **BootFix.** This program will install any corrupt disk bootblock, very easy to use.
GS Simple, quick and easy diskcopy program.

MORE UTILITIES

ScreenLooper The idea is to load any picture or program and then reset your amiga, load this program and save the memory picture as an IFF picture. **Trainer Maker.**
V394 CHEMESTETIC is a program that draws molecules using the colorite model. This means that atoms are drawn as balls. Using this model, even extremely dangerous molecules like dioxine
V395 LIGHT WORD PROCESSOR V2.6h This is a shareware word processor editor with various learn modes, a command language, menu customization, hyperhelp, an line help, a two mode, spill windows, copy & paste, undo, features.
V396 POS UTIL'S No 16: Dathesys Excellent database program which needs NO CLI knowledge to use, nice menu driven system. **LandScape.** drawning program from Ancient Greek Scrolls.
V397 MANDELBROT ADVENTURE KIT is nicely done mandelbrot generator that allows you to zoom up to about 18,000 times of C code. includes some sample images along with the parameters used to generate them, and lots of built-in help screens.
V398 MED MUSIC MODULES No 2 Another collection of tunes for use with the MED program.
V399 POS UTIL'S No 17 Stitchery is a pattern program & **sMovie** is video production scroller
V400 RAY TRACER CONSTRUCTION KIT Another ray tracing program for the amiga computer.
V401 WINDOWBENCH V1.0 (2) This is the excellent Workbench replacer as is styled in Amiga Workbench II form. Packed & executable.
V403 AMOS UPDATE V1.32 The latest update for the programming Amos
V410 POS UTIL'S No 1: PRINTING UTILITIES Various utilities for any printer user, theres some excellent programs like Big Banner, PPShow, ABFO, View. **Tiny Print.** Takes a text file and when printed through this program the text is printed small (To the printer). **PPFonts.** Font List, Extract, Print/Font. **FastLet.** Excellent programs for Desk Top Publishing. Inc a high resolution enhanced graphic set. **GWPrint 2**
V411 NCOMM V1.921 The latest version of that excellent Modem program on the Amiga.
V412 WORKBENCH 1.3 ADD-ON STATION This is not just another workbench clone. It's a collection of utilities with the Workbench theme. Contained in the disk are as follows, DMouse, 8 Colour Wb, My Menu, Xicon, pointer Anim, WBKilled, XCursor, MegaWB, Exploding Windows, Newclock, extended Ed & Ashme. All are easy to work current Workbench in different ways. **(2)**
V415 VIDEO EQUIPMENT Is a disk packed with excellent back ground pictures for video production work or Used with Deluxe Opaint.
V417 SUPERBENCH & EXTRAS An excellent replacement disk with more utilities than the original WB **(2)**
V420 CUSTOM BASIC COMPILER Compiles any Amiga Basic program with this utility disk.
V422 C. COMPANION This disk is filled with utilities which can be used in any Startup-sequence.
V424 POS UTILITIES No 18 Another collection of utilities by us here. Utilities include, **AntiBlock.** A protection program, said to stop the ticker in High Res. **Atari Emulator.** Another program to turn your amiga into an ST. **Smart Icon.** This program will change your workbench & smart up the windows. **Workbench WBLook.** Another epiacement window program.
V429 DIGITAL MARKETING DEMO MAKER A new demo creator and not to be Red Sector Or DMS3
V433 ANIMATION STUDIO An excellent Animation creator for any Video or Film work.
V438 OPTI UTILITIES V2.0 This disk is packed with some very useful utilities. Inc Optimize.
V439 AMIGA C: MANUAL II This manual is the complete C manual for the Amiga & describes open & work with all parts of the C system. It contains various examples, some simple & some moreComplex all the way through the disks a tutorial is being written. **(4 disk)**
V443 SPECTRUM EMULATOR VI.2 By KGB Various new features but the main updated feature is that it now has sound.**(4 disk)**
V444 PRINTER DRIVER UPDATE DISK II Another update to your printer drivers with some extra useful instructions how to install them.
V445 JRCOMM V1.02 This is the latest version of the excellent modem based computer program
V448 V448 / V453 - HOUSE MUSIC SAMPLE COLLECTION These disks can be sold seperately, titles are Shaman Samples, KLF Samples, Bomb the Bass Samples, C & C Music factory samples, Rhythm samples EMF & Electronic Samples. (6 Disk Pack) 57-68+)
V455 LAND BUILDER A fractal generating program to gathereda landscapes.
V456 PRINTING UTILITIES No 2: LABELSE V3.0 An excellent data base program this is very easy to use. Recommended. Various other good utilities.
V457 POS UTILITIES No 19: Boot Games No 10 The best Virus killer just got better. It now reognizes 250 boot blocks & is kickstart 2.0 compatible. **FLAST COPY** Excellent copyier & **System information.**
V458 NIB COPIER Another coping program. Version chips check the copyright of the disk that you intend to copy. Very good new version.
V460 UTILITIES Multi Plot, multi draw, Multi Mixed & VT-100 v03.06.
V468 DIGITAL ADRESS BOOK Collect & save your address list on your computer. By Robert Jones.
V469 MEAN 18 COURSE DISK 1: This is the golden disk that we missed back almost two years ago.
V470 CLP ART Another excellent collection of clip arts to load into any DTP programme. Disks
V474 ART LAB UTILITIES An excellent collection of art based programs.
V475 SUITE V1.4 A collection of programs called P Write, a simple word processor, P-Draw, a Wonder and much more. Programs by Gary Duffy
V476 VOYAGE OF CORIOMANDEZ This Diary of George Hale's trip to Australia. With Maps.
V477 THE SUPER KILLERS II: This the best virus killer disk to date kills over 200 virus & may be more. Includes various excellent killers such as Boot, v4.13 can install loads of ad lock protections and more.
V479 CHESS & CHESS UTILITIES A collection of chess related puzzles & utilities.
V480 DTP-77/79 PROGRAMS & SILLY SAMPLES (2)
V484 ADVERTISE SOLUTION (2) A complete collection of advetsive solutionsfor various games
V488 DMS RENDER Another ray tracing prog
V487 HACKS & POKES Excellent new collection
V488 ADX-RENDER V3.6 Another ray tracing prog
V489 AMIBASE II This is the latest updated version of the excellent database program. now includes various excellent new features.
V490 MESSY SID II Another updated program from the original messysid, Copies any PC text files and transfers them onto the Amiga.

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MEGA DEMOS

1618 KBG MEGA DEMO (2) This disk is totaly brilliant & really well presented. Mega demo. (2)
1746 ANARCHY - INPIRATION IS NONE Listed & the best one of the mega demos on all the best Amiga demos groups. inc Anim
1748 THE DEVILS - NO LIMIT MEGA DEMO This is the latest mega demos & is totaly stunning.
1947 THE SLENTS - FRANCE MEGA DEMO This is out demo of the month. Superb Amiga demo.
1976 ANARCHY - DIGITAL INNOVATION Another classic mega demo from the Anarchy production live. Don't be surprised to this in AV or CU Amiga.
1980 VIRTEL WORLDS MEGA DEMO
1985 THE REBALS - THE THING This is the latest Rebals Production and is excellent.
1987 THE DEVILS - NO LIMITS Loads of sections and excellent music.
1988 ART SCENE II This is one of the best graphical mega demos we have seen he ref PD-Soft.
DEMO OF THE MONTH NOV/91 by all here at PD-Soft. Inc Anim, Music & Graphics.
2043 PHENOMENA - OBVIOUS DISASTER More brilliant demos from Phenomena. Good
2301 PANIC - 1000 WASTED DREAMS A great new mega demo, Inc Anim.
2120 DOMOB - ITS A LAME D-MO That right after many of months there bock with a excellent VECTOR PRODUCTION. **New DEMO OF THE MONTH DEC/91**
2124 SHADOWS MEGA DEMO This is a great action packed mega demo with Superb Music. Released by Yours
2143 PARADISE - INFINITE DREAMS Great demo production with plenty of innovative parts.
2150 SPECTRUM - MEGA DEMO Mega MIX An excellent new stereo mega mix from kefrens.
2151 DELIGHTFUL - AUDIOSORMIS MEGA DEMO A Great 3d Graphic effects show.
2152 BLOOD - MEGA DEMO A excellent looking colourful interactive demo.

STAR TREK SECTION

ATOS NCC 1684 Rallard Shuttle fly by. **FIS Jet Anim** By Allen Hastings. **NCC-618 Nelson.**
ATOS Spaceship Star Trek type hyperdeswhible passes **NCC-1864** Rallard very good.
ATOS INTERFACES Leaves the Star station dock. **NCC 1701-A.** The ref information.
ATOA GRABBER WORKBEE lands on the Enter-prise Bay. Anim & Star Trek Music.
ATOA THE STAR TREK Animation of the bridge & various pictures from the Star Trek series.
ATTY THE TWOK NCC-1860 Reliant & the NCC 1701-A-Enterprise. **MENSCH ROBOTER**
ATTB TWOK Star Trek II The Wrath Avenger & NCC 1701-A-Enterprise. NCC 1089 Grissom.
A722 ENTERPRISE Star Trek Animation, Binary Flight Wireframe landscape by 1 Richter
A723 STAR TREK FLEET MANEUVERS NCC-1940 Ph over & by animation. excellent classic
A726 THE SHIP Animation rocking of sea. Star Trek information Disk. Ship Pictures.
A733 THE PROBE II Animation & **BIRD OF PREY** Animation Star Trek. Multi Pictures.
A734 LEAVING SPACE OFFICE Animation. **DOCKING** Enterprise from star trek. **ATTACK MODE** Bird of Prey Scout hip in orbit & Klingon ship.
1060 STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION This Engine is by Jerry A. Jim Anderson.
1081 THE ULTIMATE STAR TREK Game by Tobias Richter. v1.2 requires 1 Mb
1254 Star Trek The Shoot m Up game
1496 The Star Trek trivia quiz game
1835 The Haven Star Trek **(WITHDRAWN)**
2031 STAR DREK MUSIC (2)
2033 STAR TREK DEMO (2) Richter presents a Mega demo of Star Trek pictures.
2035 STAR TREK Is a text type game by Eric Gustafson.US import regaires Wb and (2) disks
SMAUG156 The Star Trek the game by Jimbo Barbers American version of the game.
AMUSE19 TREK73 A strek trek Battle Simul-ator where you control attack klingons ships.
V367 STAR TREK INFORMATION A Data base of all the original Star Trek Episodes.
V446 STAR TREK SAMPLES Various sound from the Cast of Star Trek original
V480 WHDB II - THE NEXT GENERATION

DEMOS

1698 REINCARNATION OF SGT (2) PEPPER Freaky colourful graphics. Reviewed in AF26
1740 DRUGS Is a Demo. Music collection high quality sound not to be missed.
1741 KLF MUSIC DISK Sator presents this great music disk. Excellent stuff.
1750 PINK FLOYD Another brick in the wall gemonstor. Reviewed in most magazines
1762 TERMINATOR II SLIDE SHOW There's some excellent pictures from the film **(2)**
1772 HAM PICTURES Totaly stunning graphics are stored on these disks **(3)**
1809 TRIBADOS - SUDDESHOW An excellent collection od fractal based pictures.
1834 WRESTLEMANIA Is a demo all the Stars of the WWF battle it out on computer disks.
1837 ADVERT REMIX Very funny sample of a remixed Sega advert.
1867 THE KLF EXTERNAL STEREO REMIX One of the better house music disks. Stereo
1951 CRYSTAL SYMPHONIES BY PHENOMENA Another great demo from Phenomena. Good
2004 TECHNOTRONIC MIX (1MB) The Best Demo Ever Presents this excellent Megamix.
2010 DUNGEONS OF EVALON Is a text of the fastest game before the forth coming release.
2012 DUNGEONS OF EVALON 2 preview By A-Cron & Cyberstyle. Excellent Game man.
2021 VIETNAM CONFLICT Animation
2030 JESTER - SONIC BOOM An interesting music collection by Jester
2035 BUNSEN BURNER Anim of a jet dodging through Fractale Mountains.
2037 ENIGMA VARIATIONS 1 Another cover version of a spectacular music dance track.
2042 STEVE WRIGHT - Two more amie Adverts

titles Total Re Heat & Total Re print.
2058 I'M TOO SEXY A sampled versionof Right Said Fred's excellent song.
2072 AMPLIFIER II Excellent follow up to the original. Excellent music disk collection (2)
2074 LONDINO SEQUENCE An excellent 3D Anim animation recreated by Tobias Richter (4)
2078 WWF PICTURES Slideshow (3 & 1mb)
2081 KNIGHT MOVES An excellent display of Fractal Graphics requires 2.5Mb (3)
2091 KICK OFF 3 Slideshow from the game
2099 PSYGNOSIS - HISTORY TRIP Pictures from all of their excellent computer games.
2105 QUAD - DEATH BY STERO Excellent looking music disk from the group Quad.
2110 TARROT II (2) Excellent prohram with 2 disks
2126 FRACTALE MOUNTAINS A Slideshow of various Fractale calculated landscapes. (2 Disks)
2134 ULTIMA VI PREVIEW Program show off Ultima 6
2141 ANOTHER DAY - DEMO Over 2 mins
2145 CHROME - DIGITAL DISCO Music disk
2157 SUNTURY - AUGUST DEMO Original new music disk with an excellent graphic bonus.
2168 MEGA MUSIC Vol 1 A 16 track music disk with some Hot Hard records/crormed on two disks (2)

GAMES SELECTION

SMAUG149 MOIRA V3.0 Excellent role playing game with new improved graphics.
1073 TYPING TUTOR Closest to the real game.
1420 DTRS this is the best 2 Player Tetris game.
1454 MEGA BALL (THE BEST ARKANOID GAME Medium Sized Disk)
1486 SOLITAIRE & SOLITAIRE ROYAL Two very addictive solitaire card games
1534 THE HOLY GRAIL Text adventure simular in Nevilles Text Program games.
1561 TRITWIS This is the best version of Tetris on the amiga with a 3 play option.
1622 LEGEND Excellent War game simular in concept to the game RISK
1644 THE ARTHAN CONFLICT Excellent new Text adventure similar to the infocom.
1665 BATTLE FORCE ROLE PLAYING Fight in robot form with robots in robot environments.
1695 NAPOLENIC WAR SIMULATOR Excellent program based on Napoleonic wars.
1707 IMPERIUM Another excellent strategy game based upon Roman times.
1735 ASTERIODS 'THE ORIGINAL' Another old classic. Remember that Crazy
1747 ANOTHER DAY 2001 By Jeff Minter Brilliant stuff & Excellent production
1749 ANOTHER DAY Remember that old classic well is now on the Amiga The Shoot em up.
1816 SUPER TWINTRIS Totally playable.
up game with an animal Manager Option.
1870 PATIENCE'S & DOMINO'S The famous card game, this is a excellent version to date.
1964 AMIGA COLUMNS Famous conversion of the original game column's.
1977 POM POM GUNNER Shoot down the incoming world war I air planes.
1984 A MAD MAZE Real real fight simul-ator on the amiga with various Air planes to fly
2018 SPACE ACE Excellent spectrum classic converted to the amiga. It's setbak.
2019 CARRIER ZOOM Another adventure game for you to play around with.
2020 JEOPARDY (RISK) A conversion of that classic board game.
2022 SEA LANCE The first Silent service type sub war games with both periscope & Bridge views.
BEST GAME OF 1991 BY AMIGA FORMAT ISSUE 30
2024 WORM A rendition of the game from the original Spectrum computer.
2128 DUNGEON MASTER EXSTRAVAGANZ Load into save data disk & play the game.
2153 AQUAVENTURA PREVIEW The lastest Epic Production Underwater Role playing Game.
2154 MEGA TWIN TRIS PREVIEW Another version of a game like our simulations Tetris. Excellent.
2156 PARAFLEX PREVIEW Demo version of a game like or simular to Columns. Excellent
2159 SPACE HARRIER Another game like slight simulator from Jaegar Software.
2161 CROSS GAME An excellent new role playing/ Strategy game. Load through workbench.
2162 BATTLE OF BRITAIN WAR GAME 2 Strategy war games with both Graphics & through WB.
2164 DUNGEON ON NADROJ This is the best Dungeon Master Style game for the amiga ever we have played in a long time. GAME OF THE MONTH JAN/92. Recommended for all Hack & mona players

HOT NEW AMOS

APD52 FORMS REALLY UNLIMITED
APD146 FRUIT MACHINE SIMULATOR
APD151 UNDERSTANDING AMOS The Amos Manual Programs. Disk 1
APD176 AMOS DATABASE MASTER
APD329 AMOS FRUIT MACHINE II By gary Hunt
This program is the possible best fruit machine fruit machine you can find in any snooke hall or Pub / Arcade. Features, Nudges, Holds, Respins, Hunches, Winspins, superwins, Bronze/ Silver/ gold Pots, Skill Nots, Skill Stops, Jackpot, Double Jackpot.
APD333 AMERICAN FOOTBALL RADIO VERSION

RED SECTOR Inc SECTION

V085 - RED SECTOR DEMO CREATOR : The Main program used to create demos. Requried if you wish to run any of the programs under. Excellent program
V330 - RED SECTOR EXTRAS DISK 1 : On this disk are Big logos, little Logos, Vector Stars, Starfields, Bob Anims, Vector Objects, Vector Ball Objects, 32, 16 & 8 Point Fonts, Also the only Full Documents on the Demo maker programme!
V340 - TSB VECTOR DESIGNER PROGRAM : The special Bothers presents the TSB Vector designer V1.1, this program will create filled vector objects, line vectors & bob Coords tables.
V365 - RED SECTOR MODULES (MUSIC) : Various excellent music modules for use with the demo maker (all by red sector) modules include Laser Intro, Loading, Jouxy House 2 & More.
V374 - RED SECTOR BOBS EDITOR : Simular to the vector editor above but this will easily create bob routines for the Red Sector Demo Maker Includes various Bobs to help you start.
V454 - RED SECTOR FONT EDITOR Now you can create fonts & Color Fonts for use with the demo maker & this editor see FFP5 Below
LI7 - DIANETIX RED SECTOR EXTRA DISK 1 : The Latest Convesion to convert IFF Pictures into various formats including sprite 4, Sprite 16, Copper, LBM, Raw Norm, Raw Bob & Outline. This is a PCHydall licencseware program and costs £3.00.
LI8 - DIANETIX RED SECTOR EXTRA DISK 2 : This disk contains the Red Sector Vectorsbeam program, yes the Red Sector version. Also contains full instructions to use it. This is a Dianetix licencseware program and costs £3.00.

ERIC SCHWARTZ

F423 Miss A' Selle Fogo Animation
0981 STEALTHY MANOEUVRES & Flyby
1034 AT THE MOVIES Animation
1085 SWIS ARMY Animations **
1582 ARMY vs THE WALKER *
1609 THE SHOOT Animations
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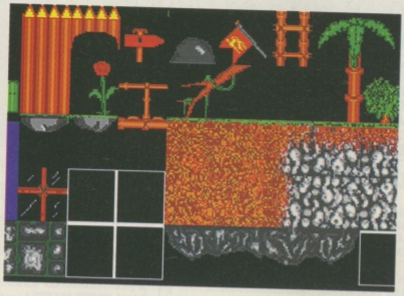
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PD UTILITIES

Mat Broomfield is here to round up the hottest new PD utilities and the sexiest shareware.



LEED (LEvel EDitor) – SHAREWARE

Here's a useful program for game coders who write horizontally-scrolling level games like *Shadow Of The Beast* and *Super Wonderboy*. It allows you to load IFF screens which are then split into panels. These panels are then used as the building blocks for creating levels which may be many times larger than the original screen. Commands are issued via a control panel at the bottom of the screen, and the whole package is very user-friendly and easy to use.

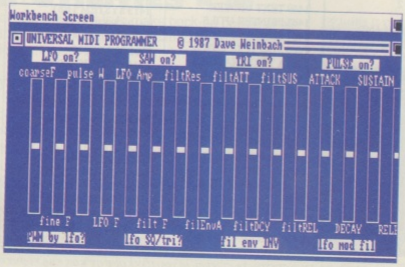
Strictly PD: Disk U315 ★★★★

MIDI COLLECTION – PD

At last somebody's put together a collection aimed specifically at MIDI musicians. This collection comprises six utilities, a couple of pieces of MIDI music, and a large selection of Casio CZ-101 instruments.

Noteable among the utilities are Panl 1.2, which is a MIDI event programmer that allows data to be entered via a mixing panel, and MIDI utilities 1 and 2, both of which allow MIDI sequences to be recorded from a keyboard.

One of the most interesting items on the disk, though, is called MIDI Box, and it includes complete instructions for building your own MIDI interface. It comes complete with pin assignments, required component lists, and detailed construction information. Although you can buy MIDI interfaces for less than £30, the satisfaction of making your own means that this could be your best possible introduction to the wonderful world of MIDI. Strictly PD, Disk U302 ★★★



QUICKBENCH – SHAREWARE

If you've ever bemoaned the length of time it takes Workbench to load, then this is for you. It's basically a cut down version, which not only loads far faster than usual, but also makes all commands memory resident. This means that commands, such as Copy and Format etc, which would usually have to be loaded into memory each time they're used, are now available without having to refer back to the Workbench disk constantly. This makes the package ideal for single-drive users as many commands are now much easier to use.

An additional advantage is that *Quickbench* can survive a soft reset, which means that if you press Cntrl/Amiga/Amiga, *Quickbench* will reappear after a few moments. This makes it especially useful when perusing large numbers of PD disks which load via Workbench.

As this is a beginner's version, some commands and tools have not been implemented, but if there is sufficient demand perhaps D.Ibbotson, the program's author, will write a more complete version. Incidentally, *Quickbench* requires Kickstart 1.3 or higher to run and there's a special version available for Workbench 2 owners.

Diskovery PD, Disk Quickbench ★★★★

ADDRESS BOOK

Ground Zero, 4 Chandos Road, Redland, Bristol, BS6 6TE.
17 Bit, Dept CU, PO Box 97, Wakefield, WF1 1XX. Tel: 0924 366982.
Diskovery PD, 108 The Avenue, Clayton, Bradford, BD14 6SJ. Telephone: 0274 880066.

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PD UTILITIES



S.W.A.G-4 – PD

Despite the fact that fractals seem passe to many people, this disk may be exactly what it takes to revive an interest, and contains three programs: Mandel Blitz, Mandanim and Zplot.

The greatest problem with fractals is the huge amount of time it takes to render anything worthwhile. Mandel Blitz attempts make them more accessible as it uses new algorithms to greatly hasten the rendering process. In fact, it is instantly apparent that Mandel Blitz is doing something special as you watch the unusual way that it renders fractal images. Unlike most packages which create their pictures one raster line at a time, crawling down the screen, Mandel Blitz just draws rough lines all over the screen before adding detail afterwards. This really is the fastest fractal generator I've ever seen. It's literally hundreds if not thousands of times quicker than most of the competition!



Mandanim forms the perfect complement to Mandel Blitz because it animates fractal images. Having defined the number of frames to be animated, and the exact areas to be used, Mandanim will automatically render and save all of the necessary images. These can then be loaded into your favourite art package for inclusion in your own projects, or to be saved in the compressed .anim format. This program is easy to use, and the results are worth the effort.

The final program, ZPlot, describes its function as being able to 'Graph formulas based on 4-D complex number planes'. In practice, this means that you can give the program a complex formula, and it will draw a colourful 3D representation of it. I didn't really understand how this program worked at all, but I loved the results. Strictly PD, Disk U312★★★★

SOZABON C – PD

C is one of the most popular languages on the Amiga. Offering the power of machine code, but only slightly harder to learn than Basic, it's the perfect choice for would-be coders to learn. With the appearance of the new Sozabon C compiler, that possibilty is more likely than ever.

The package comprises all of the programs required to write C programs. These include a text editor, linker, bug checker, disassembler and, of course, the compiler itself. Full documentation is included although there's a rather childish snipe at Amiganuts buried in there which seems unnecessary. Never-the-less, this seems to be the most complete public domain C package yet available, and demonstrates the spirit of PD very well. Excellent quality software available to all for nothing more than the cost of a disk and postage!

Ground Zero: Disk U104. ★★★★★

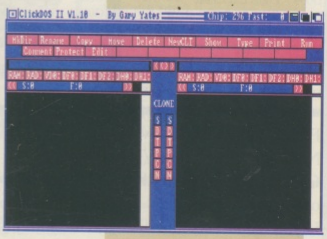
HARD DRIVE UTILITIES – PD

Hard drive owners will be aware of how tedious it is to make back-up copies of all data on their drives, especially if they have a high storage capacity. Fortunately, there are a number of utilities which can make life easier, and many of them are grouped together on this disk.

When you make a back-up of your hard drive, you don't want to copy files that have already been saved earlier. By using the Date option of programs such as MRBack-up and Kwik back-up, you can specify only files created after a certain date for duplication. Also included are Fixdisk and Sectorama, programs which are invaluable in helping the user to recover damaged or lost data from either a floppy or hard disk.

Bringing up the rear are DiskPerf, FMSDisk and ClickDOS. ClickDOS is a file copier and mover similar to SID and Diskmaster, although somewhat more primitive. FMSDisk and DiskPerf help to improve the performance of your hard drive, although they're definitely not tools for the beginner. Overall, a very handy disk which may be worth hundreds of pounds to hard drive owners.

Ground Zero PD: Disk U94 ★★★★



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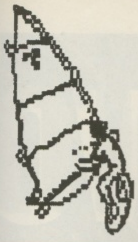
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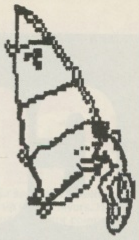


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PACIFIC PD

colour revo

colour prints fro



Believe it or not, it *is* possible to get a relatively inexpensive mono printer to output in glorious technicolour. Mat 'Midas man' Broomfield shows you how. . .

GREAT VALUE

Many Amiga users have discovered what superb value for money the Canon BJ-10e represents, with its near-laser print quality and relatively cheap price tag. Now the printer is even more powerful thanks to a company called System Insight. They produce a colour kit which allows it to print colour pictures which are superior to those of printers costing five times the price.

Because each screen must be coloured four times, full colour printing is only available using the optional ASF-6410 auto sheet-feeder; one for each of the four primary colours. Therefore, it's essential that the page is lined up exactly each time it's fed through the printer. Unfortunately, it's not possible to achieve the required degree of precision feeding the paper by hand.

A MESSY BUSINESS

The colour kits are available in two configurations. For owners who already have a few empty BJ-10e ink cartridges, a refill kit will suffice, which allows the user to fill the old cartridges with coloured ink. This kit includes cleaning solution so that excess black ink can be removed from the carts before filling. Gloves are also supplied so that you don't have to get ink on your hands! Refilling old cartridges, though, is an arduous task, which involves pumping cleaning fluid and then air through them until all the ink-stained fluid has been ejected. On the downside, I discovered that the dried ink inside old black cartridges seems to re-dissolve after a couple of weeks, staining the coloured ink now in the cartridge.

Alternatively, colour kits can be purchased supplying already-filled coloured ink cartridges. I recommend buying your first like this, but if money's a bit tight, at least buy a yellow cartridge as a freshly-cleaned cartridge may still contain spots of black which taints yellow the most.

HANDY HINTS When using colour refill cartridges, the ink doesn't alway flow as soon as you start printing. Before running each separation, test the ink flow on a blank sheet of paper. If there appears to be a blockage, running the printer's auto-cleaning routine a couple of times will usually clear it. If not, use an old cleaning fluid bottle to pump air into the cartridge until sufficient pressure starts the ink flowing again.

lution

mono printers

ADDRESS BOOK

You can contact System Insight at:
120 Wordsworth Court, Middlefield, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 0EF.
Tel: 0707 276913.

HOW IT WORKS

Printing on the BJ-10e is achieved using the same technique as commercial colour printers employ. A full colour image is created using cyan, magenta, yellow and black separations of the screen to be printed. These must first be converted to shades of grey, and printed using the Grey Scale option of an art package. Each separation is printed, using the appropriately-coloured ink, and it's the collective effect of these that creates a full colour image.
Unfortunately, this is a very time and labour-intensive process, but for limited use, the results more than justify the effort.

VERY SPECIAL

The BJ-10e can print at a resolution of 360x360 dots per inch (DPI), which is 60 DPI higher than most laser printers. This means that it's capable of greater subtlety of shading, and can produce a resolution of colour mixing that leaves all other home printers dead. Even the ever-popular Hewlett Packard Paint Jet is only capable of a resolution of 180x180.

The kits cost £14.95 for a pack containing two bottles of a single ink colour. Also included is a plastic glove and a bottle of cleaning fluid. Alternately, you can buy a kit containing all three colours for £39.95.

VERDICT

- Full colour on a mono-chrome printer
- Requires auto sheet feeder
- Available as refills or cartridges
- Very time consuming but the results are brilliant

★★★★★



Printing with the colour separation method means that pictures are built up in four layers. Here, we've started with Magenta as our colour base.



Now, add a smidgen of yellow to the first print to brinf out the orange tones of the picture. . .



With a splash of blue, the picture's really starting to take shape. . .



Black is the final and most crucial layer because it's used to add depth to all of the other colours.



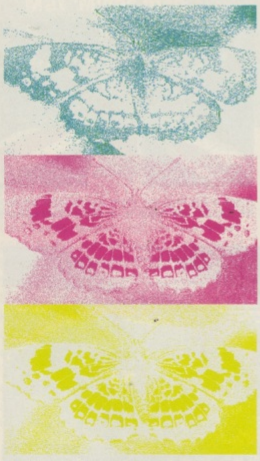
colour revolution

colour prints from mono printers



Any black and white printer can produce full-colour images provided you can obtain different coloured ribbons for it. The process involves three straightforward stages, which can be simplified even further if you own the right software.

add a dash of colour to your life



When the four individual colour separations are combined, they create a single full-colour image.

SEPARATIONS

The first stage involves generating the four colour separated screens that you'll need to print later. Every image, regardless of its complexity, or the number of colours it uses, can be broken down into four basic colour constituents: black, cyan, magenta and yellow.

Different colours are created by mixing these four elements in varying amounts. For example, shades of green are created by mixing amounts of cyan and yellow together, whereas orange is created using magenta and yellow. Although you can calculate the colour separations yourself, it's far easier to use image processing software such as *Flexidump* to generate the images. Simply load the required screen into *Flexidump* and select 'Separation' from the 'Options' menu. A number of separation types are available, but the one you'll need is called YMCK. Click on one of the letters to create a single separation, ie Y for a Yellow separation. I don't know why but K=Black/Grey.

NO SHEET FEEDER?

If your printer doesn't have an automatic sheet feeder, or has one that is inaccurate, you can still attempt to print colour pictures:

When you feed your paper into the printer ready for the first print, make small pencil marks on the printer casing to indicate where the edges should be when you feed it in for consecutive passes. Also, take care to ensure that the sheet is pushed as far into the printer as it will go without forcing or bending it. These measures should hopefully ensure that every sheet of paper moves through your printer in exactly the same position.

A perfect image will then be created. You'll need to load your original screen for each colour of the process, but once it's finished you can keep the separations on file for future use.

Once a colour separation has been created, you'll have a screen composed entirely of shades of that colour (sixteen shades to be precise).

GREY DAYS

For the next step, you'll need to convert your sixteen shade colour separation, into a sixteen-shade grey scale image.

When you come to print your separations, you'll be printing using the grey scale option of your art package. Using this option, the computer converts all colours into a brightness value, which it then translates into one of sixteen shades of grey. It then sends this grey image to the printer. If you tried to print coloured separations without converting them to grey scale, bright separations such as yellow would all be translated into light shades of grey for the printer's purposes.

If you own *Flexidump*, you can easily convert coloured screens into grey scale ones. Load your image and select 'Balance' from the 'Options' menu and a box will appear containing six sliders. Select the 'Saturation' slider and move it down as far as it will go (-15), then click on 'Draw' and close the box. Your image is now in grey, so save it ready for printing.

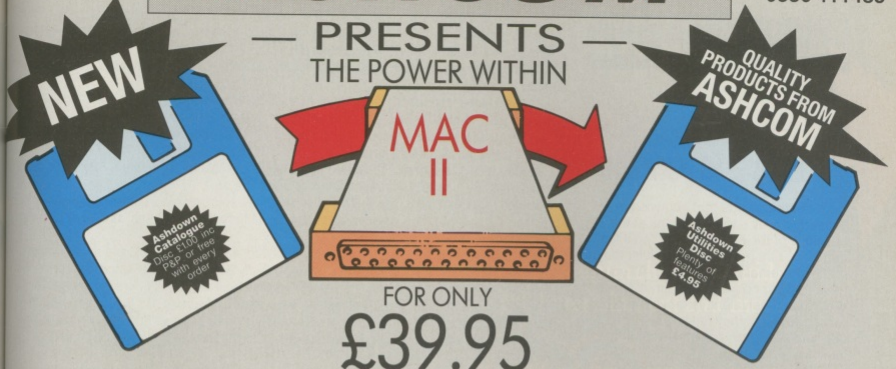
If you don't own *Flexidump*, you can still convert your pictures into grey scale using *DPaint*, it just takes a bit longer. Load your single-colour separated screen into *DPaint* and call up the palette by pressing 'P'. Select any

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colour in the palette that you wish to convert to grey scale, and look at the positions of the RGB sliders. You'll find that one of them is adjusted whilst the other two remain set at fifteen. All you have to do to convert a colour to its grey scale equivalent, is move the other two sliders until they're level with the odd one out. Then save the screen for later use.

Once you've converted all three of your colour separations to grey scale images, you're ready to print. Incidentally, the fourth separation (black) is already in grey scale format and doesn't need converting. All that remains is to make the four prints. There are a number of ways that you can approach the order in which you print the colours. If you're using ribbon, it's probably wise to print the yellow and magenta separations first because the ribbons may become stained if you print them on top of darker colours.

If you're using a bubble jet printer, you ought to print your separations according to which require the least printing. The more white on a screen, the less ink needs to be squirted onto the page. Better results are achieved if you print the least ink-intensive screens first. Good luck!

ADDRESS BOOK

Flexidump is available from Care Electronics at 800 St Albans Road, garston, Watford, Herts, WD2 6NL. Tel: 0923 66234.

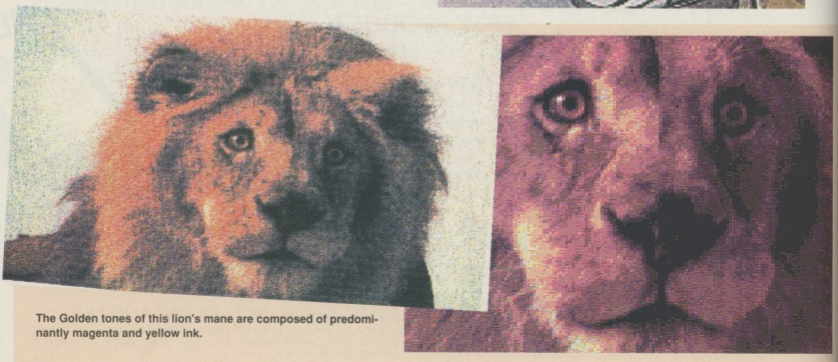
TIPS Even with a sheet feeder, it can sometimes be difficult to line up the paper exactly after the first print. This is due to the paper stretching as the wet ink loosens the wood fibres. There are a number of ways to reduce this effect:

1. Print the separations with the least detail first so that the paper doesn't become ink-logged too early.
2. Use a heavier weight of paper which is less prone to stretching. I prefer cartridge paper because it also holds the ink better and produces more even colouring.
3. Ensure that the paper is fully seated into the sheet feeder each time by gripping it firmly at the top and pushing downwards.
4. After a couple of prints, the edges of the paper can become dog-eared. Make sure that you smooth the paper out before feeding it into the printer.
5. Make sure that the paper guide on the sheet feeder is pressed as close to the edges of the paper as possible. This reduces the possibility of the paper 'wobbling' as it's fed through the printer.

You may also find that your images come out very dark once printed, and this is usually due to the black element of the process. You can easily adjust the colour balance of a picture using *DPaint*. To reduce the amount of black, and therefore lighten the printed image, load the black separation into *DPaint* and call up the palette by pressing 'P'. Select any shade of grey, then lift the 'S' slider by three positions. Repeat this process for every colour in the palette, and save the screen. Your screens will now appear much lighter when printed.



This picture could almost have been printed with just a black cartridge as it's composed mainly of shades of grey. But what a difference those little splashes of colour make!



The Golden tones of this lion's mane are composed of predominantly magenta and yellow ink.

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135	CARD & BOARD GAMES (NP)	Cluedo + solitaire games
195	ELECTRIC TRAIN SET (NP)	for when the kids are asleep!
315	RETURN TO EARTH (P)	*Elite* type space trading game
496	HOLY GRAIL * (NP)	excellent text adventure
648	STAR TREK (USA) (2) * (NP)	graphic adventure
680	LEARN & PLAY (2) (P)	maths, words and colouring for kids
727	RICHTERS STAR TREK (2) (P)	best version to date
766	TREASURE HUNT (NP)	pirate treasure map game for kids
957	PIPELINE (P)	assemble your pipe quickly to keep the oil flowing
962	DRIPI (P)	rust the pipes, avoid the nasties arcade game
987	SNAKEPIT (P)	eat the food in the maze without eating yourself
991	JEOPARD * (P)	2 player game of world conquest
1004	GAMES DISK 6 (P)	including Tetris Metallica *
1113	WET BEAVER GAMES (P)	funny demo plus arcade Ping Pong
1230	DRAGON CAVE (P)	Sokoban type game with excellent gfx
1245	RINGS OF ZON * (NP)	arcade RPG game
1411	ARCADIA (P)	excellent breakout game
1520	BALLOONACY * (P)	bomb the buildings & land your balloon
1539	MEGABALL (P)	the best breakout game around!
1544	SEVEN TILES (NP)	futuristic football game like Speedball
1577	FRUIT MACHINE * (NP)	best fruit machine simulator bar none!
1584	MISSILE COMMAND (NP)	stop missiles destroying your cities
1591	QUIZ MASTER * (NP)	excellent trivia game
1670	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (P)	based on the TV show
1700	TERROR LINER II (X) (P)	adults only arcade game!
1711	MENTAL IMAGE GAMES DISK (NP)	3 brill games on one disk!
1715	FRANTIC FREDDIE (NP)	C64 favourite platforms & ladders
1720	CABARET ASTEROIDS (NP)	faithful version of the classic
1746	WORD GAMES VOLUME 1 *	exercise the grey matter
1747	WORD GAMES VOLUME 2 * (P)	and not the joystick!
1748	STRATEGY GAMES *	serious stuff including Sea Lance
1749	TRUCKIN' (2) (2D)	run your own trucking company
1832	POM POM GUNNER *	WW2 arcade action - our No.1 game
1879	SEA LANCE * (P)	Trident submarine simulation
1882	SIMPSONS GAME	help Bart in this S.E.U.C.K. game
1883	BIONIX II *	never-ending shoot 'em up!
1905	J NICKLAUS COURSES 1	data disk only!
1916	AIR ACE II (P)	excellent WW1 shoot 'em up
1926	NAPOLEONIC WARFARE SYSTEM *	war game umpire
2011	TWINTRIS *	1 or 2 player Tetris clone - very good!
2013	ZEUS (P)	simple but addictive puzzle game
2014	CUBULUS (NP)	2 dimensional Rubik's Cube game! Excellent!
2016	DOWNHILL CHALLENGE	fun on the ski slopes
2018	WIZZY'S QUEST*	wizard fun! excellent game!
2049	MATHS DRILL	maths exerciser for all ages
2050	INSIDERS CLUB *	good stock exchange simulation
2051	ATIC ATAC *	explore and collect arcade game
2052	SHAPES	addictive puzzle fun!
2057	BATTLE PONG *	1 or 2 player arcade classic
2155	GHOST SHIP	3D arcade adventure

DEMOS AND ANIMATIONS

747	POPEYE MEETS THE BEACHBOYS	very funny!
773	SHARK ANIMATION *	deadly ray-tracing!
825	BUDBRAIN 1 (2) (X)	great 2 disk demo + naughty bits!
895	A TRIP TO MARS	demo with a difference
906	MADONNA CARTOON ANIM *	short digitised animation
935	MADONNA : HANKY PANKY	excellent Madonna sample
1033	AT THE MOVIES **	loves of a squirrel?
1188	FILLET THE FISH	funny cartoon
1229	BUDBRAIN 2	good as the first one? you judge!
1238	EVIL DEAD DEMO (X) *	get them before they get you!
1453	MORE AEROTOONS *	3 Schwartz classics
1540	AMY .VS. WALKER ANIM *	Eric Schwartz at his best!
1541	BATMAN ANIMATION *	funny Schwartz animation
1552	MAGICIAN ANIMATION 2 *	simply magic!
1560	PHENOMENA ENIGMA *	superb gfx and music
1628	DO THE BART, MAN *	a must for all Simpsons fans!
1701	TRON ANIMATION (2) *	based on the film
1707	DECAY : SIMPSONS DEMO *	should appeal to everyone
1753	LIFE OF BRIAN (2)	sample from the film
1841	ANTI LEMMIN' DEMO (2) **	for Lemmings fans with 2 meg
1850	THE WALL (8) (2D) *	mammoth Pink Floyd six disker!
1856	BETTY BOO ANIM / SLIDESHOW	doing the Amiga
1885	ROBOCOP ANIMATION *	digitised from the film
1900	SILENTS : ICE DEMO	superb music and graphics
1902	TOMSOFT : VIRTUAL WORLD *	3D filled vector demo
1943	WINDSURFER ANIMATION (2) *	very good
1947	MR POTATO HEAD *	funny cartoon antics
1948	MR POTATO HEAD CHIPS ARE UP! *	more adventures
1956	CREATURE COMFORTS DEMO	from the TV adverts
1982	3D PINBALL ANIMATION *	beautiful ray-tracing

AMIGA A500 PLUS

certain software will not work on the new Amiga. We are compiling a list of compatible titles, but this will take some time to complete. In the meantime, problems can only be checked as they occur.

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119	AMIGA MCAD	
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842	C MANUAL	
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1022	AMOS UPDATE 1.3	
1095	DATABASE WORKSHOP (2)	
1097	DPAINT CLIP ART (2)	
1098	VIDEO GRAPHICS (4)	
1117	GENEAOLOGY *	
1228	ST EMULATOR (GERMAN)	
1234	TETRA-COPY	
1273	C-LIGHT	
1450	NEW SUPERKILLERS	
1451	ELECTROCAD V1.4	
1452	AMIBASE	
1536	NORTH C (PACKED)	
1537	NORTH C (UNPACKED) (2)	
1545	SPECTRAPAINT V3.0	
1550	FLEXIBASE V2.0	
1569	LANGUAGE TUTOR	
1606	DATABASE MASTER 2.0	
1629	ZX SPECTRUM EMULATOR	
1663	DYNAMITE BRUSH FONTS	
1856	202 UTILITIES	
1878	TEXTPLUS WORD PROC.	
1880	DCOPY & UTILITIES	
1884	EQUINOX INTRO WRITER *	
1886	MED V3.1	
1893	DICE V2.06A	
1896	DESK BENCH (3)	
1906	PAGESETTER CLIP ART (8)	
1914	SLIDESHOW CONSTRUCTOR	
1942	MASTER VIRUS KILLER V2.2	
1951	KING JAMES BIBLE (3)	
1954	CELTICS DEMO MAKER	
1960	RSI DEMO MAKER (ENGLISH)	
1961	RSI DM UTILITY/HELP DISK	
1962	TSB 3D VECTOR DESIGNERS	
1967	QUICKBENCH *	
1990	NIGHTFLYERS UTILITIES IV	
2004	TURBO IMPLODER V4.0	
2012	DRAW MAP V2.3D	
2056	VECTOR BALL EDITOR *	
2156	CODERS UTILITY DISK	

MUSIC DISKS

61	J M JARRE - DEFINITIVE
407	CD PLAYER DEMO *
713	FLASH! - QUEEN (2)
724	TECHNOTRONIC REMIX
746	CRUSADERS BACTERIA
941	SOUNDTRACKER JUKEBOX
976	SCOOPEX BEAST SONIX
1026	DIGITAL CONCERT VI
1292	CRUSADERS DO GENESIS
1665	DEPECHE MODE MUSIC DISK
1694	ART OF MED MUSIC DISK
1695	SEAL CRAZY REMIX *
1713	SPACED OUT VOLUME 1
1714	SPACED OUT VOLUME 2
1716	I THINK WE'RE ALONE NOW
1717	EVERYBODY DANCE NOW
1718	BETTY BOO DOING THE DO
1755	AMAZING TUNES 2 (3) *
1993	CATS SING KYLIE!
2006	SAMPLE SENSATIONS *
2008	MOVE ANY MOUNTAIN *
2059	VIVALDI FOUR SEASONS (2) *
2159	CHARLY
2160	WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR ME?

SLIDESHOWS

282	FORGOTTEN REALMS
617	NEIGHBOURS SLIDESHOW
725	DIGGY PIGGIES (2)
742	MADONNA SLIDESHOW
814	VIZ SLIDESHOW
891	CREEPSHOW
899	MADONNA SLIDESHOW 2 (2) *
968	GOREZONE SLIDESHOW (X)
1051	TOTAL RECALL SLIDESHOW
1085	COMIC SLIDESHOW (X)
1103	SPORTS ILLUSTRATED GIRLS
1263	CRUSADERS: RICHTER (2) (2D)
1277	FRAXION DIVINE VISIONS (2) *
1279	FORGOTTEN REALMS '90
1708	INVISIBLE WORLD
1719	YABBA DABBA CARTOONS
1781	REFLECTIONS RAY-TRACED
1835	NIGHT BREED SLIDESHOW
1876	REFLECTIONS RAY-TRACED 6
1901	LEEDS UNITED SLIDESHOW
1919	DEBBIE HARRY (2) (2D) *
1984	TERMINATOR SLIDESHOW
1986	ALIENS SLIDESHOW
1991	AQUARIUS IMAGES

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STORING DATA ON THE CHEAP

If you want a cheap alternative to a hard drive on which to store your valuable data, Graham Cohen has the answer: Video tape!

Having just spent £400 on a new computer the last thing you want to be told is that you've got to pay another £300 for a hard drive. Well, don't be taken in by the sales talk, because there are alternatives and you, too, can experience easy, fast and cheap data access and storage for a fraction of the price. If you're sick of constant disk swapping and huge gaps of silence inbetween your favourite game's levels, but don't have an untraceable Swiss Bank account, then this system could be for you.

'The Video Back-Up System' is an amazingly cheap product from German company Rossmoller Handshake of Cologne. Rossmoller have been in the Commodore market for ten years and have consistently delivered superb products from memory expansions to accelerator boards. They've now come up with the most original budget back-up system yet which makes use of conventional video tapes and household VCRs to store digital data.

Costing about £70, the backup system comes with all the necessary connection leads to link up An Amiga to a VCR, as well as the all-important control software, a manual and – unbelievably - 160Mb of free PD software (201 Fred Fish disks) on a video tape. One VHS 240 minute tape will back up around 200Mb on a recorder in Standard Play (SP) mode. The hardware itself, built into the connection cables, encodes the data from the Amiga using 'modem'-style techniques and converts that to an audio frequency and composite video for direct input to the relevant connections of the 'in' sockets on the machine.

The software controls whether the data back-up will include selected directories, archived data or files that have changed since last being backed-up. Restoration of a hard disk or floppy is also made painless as the software incorporates a system of synchronising the video tape to that of the Amiga's clock. Due to its low cost, the system offers an ideal alternative to tape-streamed and floppy-disk back-ups. However, as two domestic video players are rarely alike, a restoration via another recorder could cause problems. The number of variables associated with this form of data transfer, such as video head alignment, tracking control, tape tension, motor speed and even humidity, will always make this method of data back-up a gamble.

VERDICT

- **Extremely cheap**
- **Debatable reliability**
- **Free software**
- **Possibly fiddly to connect to video**

★★★★

HARD DRIVIN'

If you really want to be able to just sit back and watch your Amiga safely download all its valuables, then state-of-the-art comes with a heavy price tag.

The OP150 streamer from Omega Projects offers state-of-the-art hard disk back-up for all the Amiga models and boasts some impressive performance specs, but it's not cheap. Your £630 buys you the external unit and a first free tape. The data transfer is very quick – 112.5k per second! Tapes are available as either 150 or 250Mb formatted cartridges and any industry standard (DC600XTD, DC6150 or DC6250) tapes will be compatible. The device features an effective media/head loading mechanism to protect the head from damage during load/unload procedures, assuring accurate head-to-tape alignment and quieter operation. Being fully SCSI, your favourite back up software can be used, although a copy of AMI-Back is bundled as the control software (normally costing £49.99). If you have had to back up over 100Mb of hard disc onto floppies, you'll know what a laborious task it is. This system is ideal for anybody who has been in that time-consuming position and has the cash to relieve the problem.

VERDICT

- **High quality mechanism**
- **Very fast transfer**
- **100% reliable**
- **Could be a bit too pricey for some**
- **User-friendly**

★★★★



Whichever system in hardware you go for, and there are many, there is no denying that in the long run disk drives are not enough. Faster data access, safer storage of programs (in the case of hard drives due to their air-tight castings), a huge amount of storage space held in one place (a 40Mb hard system can store the equivalent of about 40 floppy disks) and improved, lengthy animations without the need for disk swapping to update data. . . All this adds up to a vital part of your computing experience and once you have it you'll wonder how you ever got along without it.

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D122) Ghost Pool
D124) Scoopex Seven Sins
D126) Disney Slideshow
D128) Sleeping Bag Demo
D130) System 5 Demo
D132) Alpha Flight Megademo 2
D134) Share and Enjoy 46
D136) Thames TV Demo
D138) Vision Megademo
D140) Fast Cars Slideshow
D142) Mobed
D145) Kefrens Wall Demo
D147) Beast 2 Preview
D149) Treacl
D151) Share and Enjoy 47
D153) Simpsons Mini Mega (XXX)
D155) Glass World Animation
D157) Congaman Animation
D160) Anarchy Scratch Pack 39
D162) Bugs Bunny Anim*
D164) Smurf + Cokeman Anims*
D166) Juggette Animation

UTILITIES

P02) A68K Assembler
P04) North C
U001) Jazzbench
U004) Visicalc Spreadsheet
U006) Intro Maker
U008) Sidney and Friends
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U017) Steel Moon Utilities
U019) CADV
U021) Super C Disk
U024) Red Devils Utils 4
U026) Amibase V3.76
U031) Bootbench
U033) C-Light 1 + 2
U035) System Checker
U037) Tetra Copler
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U056) Wordwright Wordprocessor
U058) Running Man Update
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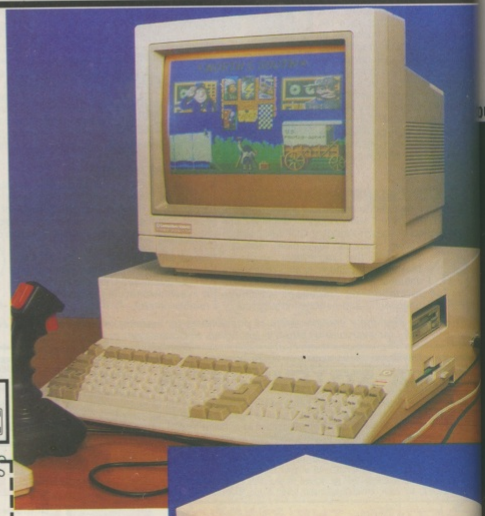
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road to nowhere?

Stuck getting from A to B? Tony Dillon gets on his bike to road-test Complex Computers' solution.

MOTORWAY MADNESS

Route planners have been available to PC owners for Donkey's years, yet, surprisingly, very few have made the journey over to the Amiga. However, in response to all you lost souls out there, Complex's *GB Route* is here to plan out the shortest and fastest routes between any two points – and between any three areas you care to mention.

Unfortunately, the package limits you to the main Motorways and A-Road, but presumably this is because memory restrictions stopped them from incorporating the country's many backstreets.

The package's best asset is its speed. If you were asked to describe the quickest route from Hammersmith to Rotherham, *GB Route* will have answered before you'd even opened the A-Z. In fact, it can predict most journeys in a mere two seconds. The database is very comprehensive and the user can zoom in at any part, allowing them a closer look at key areas.

OUT OF GAS

All route requests are entered via a prompt window, which requires your starting point, destination, and any places you may wish to visit on the way. In addition, it will also ask how much petrol your car uses per mile, the price of petrol, and the time you wish to leave. From here, the broken-down route will appear, including an estimation of the fuel's cost, and the length of your journey. You can even vary the road speeds to take bad traffic into account, as A-Road traffic can be as slow as 20MPH on a busy day.

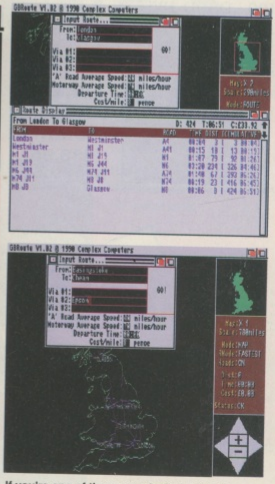
Although this is a very handy utility, forty quid does seem rather steep for what is basically an A-Z. And despite the excellent presentation and aforementioned ease of use and speed, the price stops *GB Route* from becoming a 'must have.'

VERDICT

- Easy to use
- Quite comprehensive
- Nice zoom facility
- Over-priced for what it does
- Offers print-out option

★★★★





If you're one of those people that even gets lost in their backgarden, *GB Route* is the answer to your prayers.

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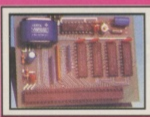
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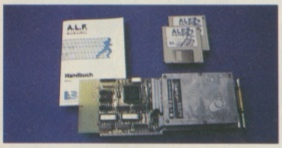
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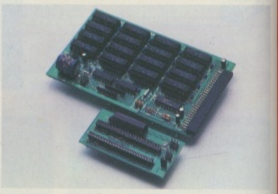
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six of the best

Europress Software's blockbusting Fun School Series continues apace with a fourth collection of programes added to the stable. Garth Sumpter went back to school to access the merits of the new set of disks and awards the marks out of ten.

BACK TO SCHOOL The *Fun School* series has always been considered some of the best educational software that money can buy. By disguising the inherent educational worth of their programs behind a colourful veneer of fun, the series has captured the imagination of children and the admiration of parents alike. With the fourth set of disks in the highly-acclaimed series poised to hit the softshops, we took a look at both the Under Fives collection and the more elaborate 7-11 year old educational package.

FUN SCHOOL 4: *FIVE AND UNDER*

This package covers four areas of learning: Numerical exercises that attempt to introduce numbers up to nine, the addition of numbers that involve counting exercises aas well as addition as abstracts i.e. 5+2 = ? and a drawing package. The latter program is especially useful in promoting hand/eye co-ordination and involving keys, reading and colour recognition exercises. Each subject is introduced in games which use a Teddy Bear as their central motif and character.



ADDITION

The first game has Teddy in a nursery school where he's shown up to nine objects on a blackboard and must choose a number corresponding to the objects on display. Each correct answer allows one of the Teddy Bear nursery school's inmates to escape to the playground. Nice to see that some traditional school values remain unchanged.

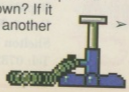
Level two introduces simple addition. As the addition is done in symbols (two frogs plus two balls), the answer can be obtained by counting and, if completed correctly, the next level sees the removal of the symbols so that you have to work in the more abstract concept of numbers.

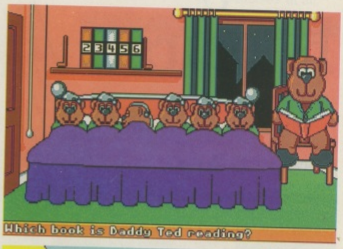
TEDDY PAINT

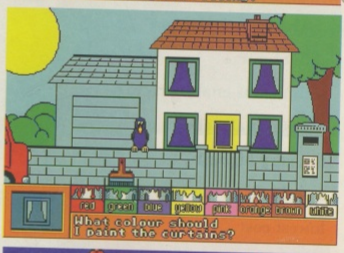
This game helps familiarise children with the computer keyboard and the mouse. A blank drawing board can be painted on the screen using the mouse and special keys defined on a menu screen. This is probably the weakest of all the games – if the idea of drawing is to nurture the child's creative side, then why use such a complicated system of keyboard entry to change colours and pencil shapes and thus reduce the art package into a test of memory? As the art package relies heavily on the mouse, surely using on-screen icons to change colour would have been more logical?

FUN TRAIN

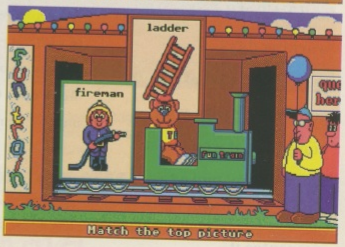
Now it's the child's reading ability that comes under scrutiny. Teddy is at the fun fair and the fun train is there. A picture has the name of the object written on it and Ted, for it is he, drives the fun train and pulls a picture into view. Is it the same as the one already shown? If it is, press enter and, if not, use the space bar to pull on another



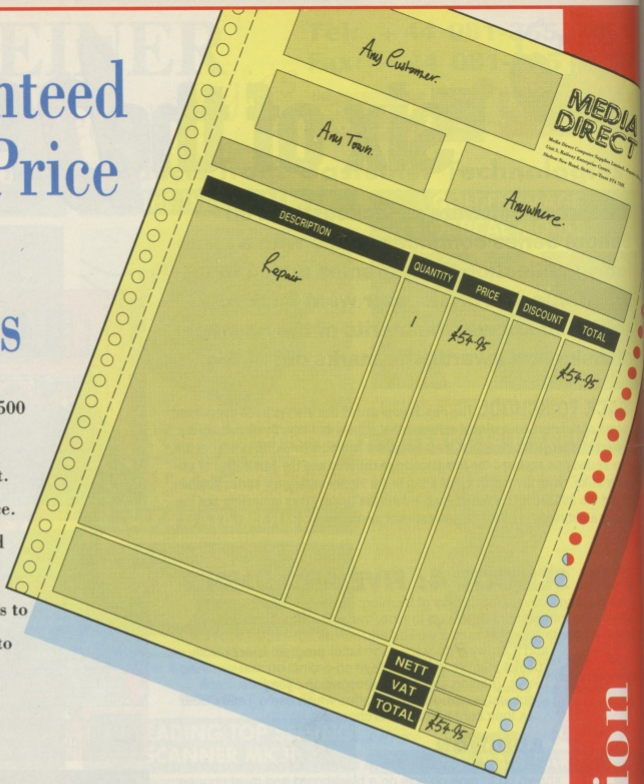








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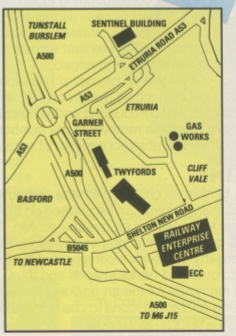
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six of the best

picture until the correct one turns up. Level two has some of the pictures replaced with words and you must again try to match the two together.

TEDDY'S KARAOKE

I'm afraid that Karaoke is spreading everywhere and even children's software is unsafe from the embarassing pastime. Unfortunately, nursery rhymes are excellent things to use to aid reading - children can learn the words to a song with ease and a bouncing ball moves them through the words of the song. This is an excellent and speedy form of word familiarisation and possibly the fastest reading aid on the disk. Level two has the child tapping out the beat of the song to get the notes to play in time and level three has song breaks where the first letter of certain words have to be entered. I see very little use in this exercise, except for musical chairs, but the excellent first level more than compensates.

TEDDY'S BOOKS

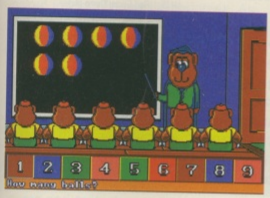
The final game in the program is a numbers game. Daddy Ted is reading bedtime stories from a shelf of six numbered books. The child must enter the number of the book he's using by finding the missing number in the series. On level two, the books are not in ascending numerical order and so the task is complicated by having to work out which book is missing. If a guess proves to be wrong then they're told to guess again, choosing a higher or lower value, emphasising the idea of quantitative value.

On the whole, I found this program to be excellent. The number games, especially Teddy's Books, are well-planned and reasonably good fun to play, and they teach precise numerical skills and ideologies - counting, relational values, number order, addition and sequence. These are all key ideas that are put across fairly well and make the software worth its price tag. Numeracy is the strong point of this package with balanced and gently progressive exercises. Graphics are very large and simply coloured and, although simple, they don't detract from the exercises at all.

VERDICT

- Straightforward
- Fun to learn
- Mouse and keyboard skills encouraged
- Simply the best
- Well-thought out tests

★★★★

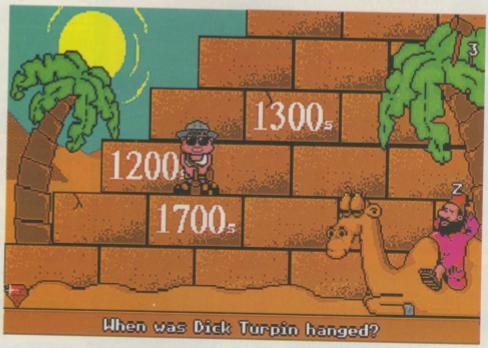






FUN SCHOOL 4: 7 - 11 YEAR OLDS

The six programs in this package cover Mathematics, Geography, History and General Knowledge. Maths has three separate skills represented in six different games. Each are a part of an overall plot: that of Agent Sammy who must track down the thief who stole the ancient riches and secret papers of King Raram. It's not a great plot, but the theme is maintained throughout the games, giving some continuity to the proceeding and a goal for the child to aim for – an important factor for any child who is likely to ask, 'Why?' and 'What am I doing this for?'



PROPORTIONS

This game, as the name suggests, tries to develop the ideas of percentage, decimals and fractions as a way of expressing the relationship of parts to a whole. By showing a screen of objects, and then asking for the ratio of like or similar objects as a sub-set of the whole, this might sound very complicated but the game progresses sensibly through each of the three tests.

In the first, our diminutive secret agent enters spy school and is faced with ten spies. He's asked questions like 'What proportion of spies have green coats?' Little Agent Sammy must then identify the colour of the coats and how many are visible. The answers will be expressed either as a decimal (i.e. 0.4 if the answer is four out of ten), as a percentage (40%), or a good old-fashioned fraction - decided either by the computer or by selecting the type of answer needed (fraction, decimal or percentage) from the keyboard.

Each correct answer allows a double agent to hand on a secret paper to Sammy.

EXCHANGE RATES

The second program introduces the idea of differing rates of exchange amongst European countries. It requires children to use multiplication and division skills so that Sammy can collect

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M093 EON Music Disk/8 tunes

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S003 Games music creator
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S006 Med V3.11/1 meg only
S010 Protracker 1.1B (needs ST-01
ST-01 Instrument disk for Sound/Protracker

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A296 Phenomina Enigma Demo
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A329 Sickness Simulator/Hilarious!
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A336 Shuttle-Cock Anim./E. Schwartz, 1 Mb
A338 Mr Potato Head II/Chris Hill (1Mb)
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A343 Virtual World Demo
A350 Scoopex Demo Disk 165
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the various items he needs for his mission.

TIMETABLE

Once our hero has collected his travel bag and other essential, it's onto the airport. This three-stage game has the child calculating departure and arrival times on either a 24-hour clock or am/pm.

GEOGRAPHY

Sammy has to navigate a plane, boat, submarine or hot-air balloon across various continents and oceans in search of clues. The first level asks no questions and is used to familiarise the child with the names of each country for later in the game. By level two, children are asked to identify specific countries. As the levels unfold, the player is then asked to identify major seas, cities, rivers, island and famour landmarks.

HISTORY

This game tries to introduce and reinforce the century, decade and year of famous historical events. A question is asked and then Sammy is moved around a pyramid to break up the stone with the correct date on it to reveal gems and artifacts – sort of grave robbing for beginners. This is well done as each historical date is narrowed down on subsequent levels.

SPY QUIZ

Everyone's favourite, no matter what age, has to be general trivia. The only problem here is that some of the questions in Spy Quiz are a little more specific, calling for not only general knowledge, but also mathematics and spelling.

OVERALL

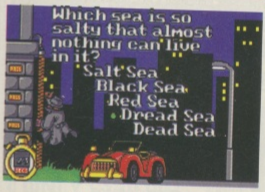
This package is a big improvement upon *Fun School 3* with each module being progressive, entertaining and, above all, pitching at just the right level for the age groups concerned. Graphics are crisp but animation is minimal and possibly the weakest area of expertise. Provision is made for control by mouse but the choice of keyboard keys is sometimes puzzling. The space bar, for example, is used to move around highlighted options, when learning to use cursor keys would seem a better idea.



ADDRESS BOOK

Both Fun School 4 packages cost £24.99 each. Europress Software, Europa House, Adlington Park, Macclesfield, SK10 4NP. Tel: 0625 859333.









VERDICT

- **Still the best educational package available**
- **Covers maths in depth**
- **No steep learning curves**
- **The sound and graphics are unobtrusive to the point of being very average.**
- **Mouse control included but some key choices are illogical.**

★★★★

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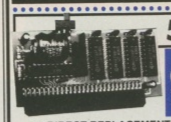
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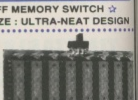
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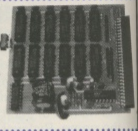
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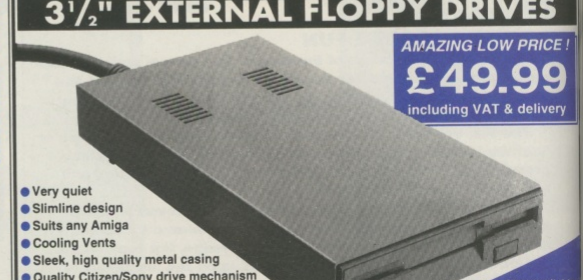
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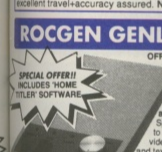


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What is Stereo Master

Stereo Master is a low cost, high quality sound sampler for the Amiga range of computers. The sampler cartridge included in this package plugs into the printer port at the rear of the computer and allows you to analyze the sounds coming in from devices such as Personal Cassette Players, Compact Disc Players etc, or change the way they sound using the Real Time Special Effects or record them. Once in the computer STEREO MASTERS unique editor will enable you to edit the sound in practically any way you can imagine. Once you have the sound sample how you want it, you may incorporate it into your own Demo's or use STEREO MASTERS own built in sample sequencer to play back the sample in sequence with other samples!



MAIN SCREEN

The Sampling Software

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* Playback volumes
* Decrease volume
* Increase volume
* Bounce sample
* Paste sample
* Trigger recording
* Clear left/right samples
* Loop sample

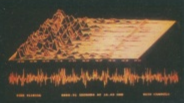


THE SPECIAL EFFECTS CONTROL PANEL

The Special Effects Software

For the first time ever you can emulate special sound effects in real time just like the sound labs can for film studios, normally the hardware to produce these effects would cost 100's of times more than this package. Features on the FX menu include:

* Built in real time special effects including Echo, Reverb, Ramp, Pitch up/down, Stereo bounce, Multi echo Chorus, Phaser, Reverse and Pitch bend.
* Fully programmable special effects so that customised effects can be recalled



3D DISPLAY OF SAMPLE FREQUENCIES (FFT)

The Analytical Software

A whole host of pro-type analytical functions include:

* 3D display of sample frequencies (Fast fourier transform)
* 3D display also includes 2D envelope display plus sample information.
* Built in Stereo spectrum analyzer
* Stereo Oscilloscopes with trigger markers



STEREO SPECTRUM ANALYZERS



STEREO OSCILLOSCOPES



THE SEQUENCER CONTROL PANEL

The Sequencing Software

Our built in sample sequencer allows you to take up to 18 samples (memory permitting) and sequence them into your own "tronic" mixes, features on the sequencer include:

* Real time entry of sequences from keypad
* Step time entry of sequences
* 2 stereo channels for sequencing
* Storyboard style editing
* Digital sequence position display
* Fast forward/rewind controls
* Program sample to keypad
* Stand alone demo player displays IFF picture whilst playing sequence
* Sequence copy function
* Loop sample
* Selectable sequence speed
* Dump/re-edit function
* Test function
* 2 octave playback
* Insert/delete sample in step time

Other innovative features

We know this product is years ahead of its time and these additional features justify our boast:

* New style stereo cartridge
* Produces stand alone executable sample files
* Fully multi tasking
* Saves in IFF/Raw/Instrument1/3/5 Octave
* Includes walkman type cable
* PAL/NTSC full screen display
* Can create workbench icons
* Save customised settings

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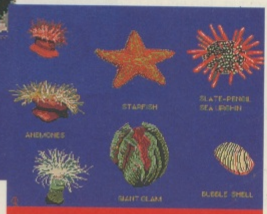
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Explore the wonders of the animal kingdom in Real Things' superb new animated *Sea Life* and *Safari* collections. Mat Broomfield explores the digital jungle.





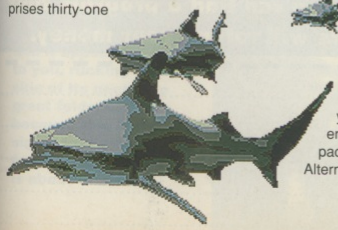
wild thing

CREATURE FEATURE

Back in 1989, RGB Studios, a small Sussex-based company, impressed the Amiga world with the release of their *Real Things Horses* collection. Comprising numerous animated horses suitable for inclusion within the user's own demos etc, the product was only the first of a successful series of animated studies. Now, in a burst of pre-Christmas activity, RGB have released not one, but two new portfolios: *Real Things Safari* and *Real Things Sea Life*.

ROCK LOBSTER

Real Things Sea Life comprises thirty-one animations, depicting eleven types of sea life ranging from sharks and sting rays to anemones and crabs – it also takes the prize for the most bizarre subject for an animation with its Plankton anim.brûsh! Like *Real Things Safari*, *Sea Life* contains scenery, demonstration material and a construction utility for the user to assemble themselves, this time illustrating a shark.



The collection is every bit as attractive as its land-based partner, and presents the user with the opportunity to create vibrant and realistic animated scenes. RGB Studios say that *Real Things* can only be used on



Amigas with one megabyte or more, and if you want to use it with *DPaint III* or *IV* this is true. However, if you don't wish to edit the animations and merely want to incorporate them into your own demos, half a meg is enough if you use a scripting package such as the *Director*. Alternately, they can be instantly compressed and animated using *Power Packer* and *PPAnim*.

WILD THANG...

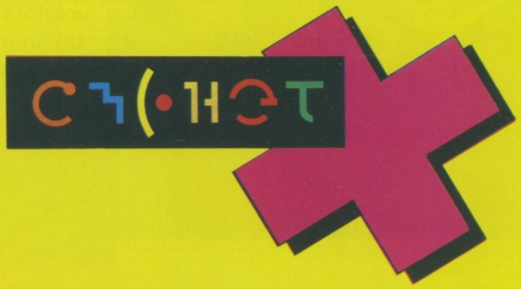
Real Things Safari contains eleven different animals vividly brought to life in eighteen animations. There are lions, tigers, zebras, wildebeest, elephants and giraffes. And, to complete the menagerie, there are three kinds of monkey.

The first of this two-disk set contains a demo showing a leopard, as seen



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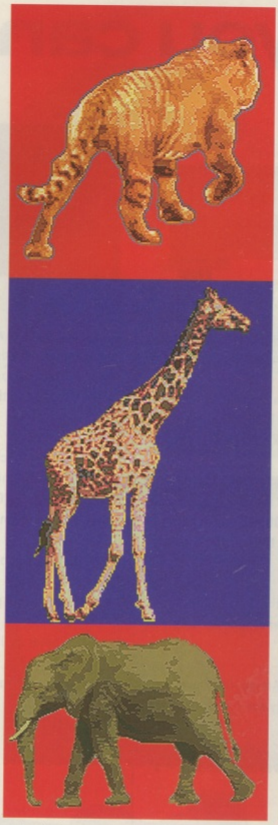
ADDRESS BOOK

Real Things cost £29.95 each and can be purchased from HB Marketing, Unit 3, Poyle 14, Newlands Road, Colnbrook, Slough, SL3 0DX. Tel: 0753 686000. In case of difficulty you can phone RGB Studios on 082 581 2666.

OUT FOR A BITE...

You can learn a lot about the way animals are feeling from the body language they give off. Like humans, animals adopt different postures according to their moods. Examples of this can be seen throughout the animal kingdom, ranging from the exotic (and often comical) courtship rituals of birds, to the more subtle warning signals given off by dogs and sharks.

Most people are familiar with the way that the hackles (hair) stands up straight on the back of a dog's neck when it's getting ready to fight. Portrayed as vicious creatures in films such as Jaws, most sharks are docile creatures which don't go out of their way to attack, or even approach, humans. They do, however, have a great deal of curiosity about their environment, and it is this that has lead to a large percentage of so-called shark attacks. Because they don't have limbs to feel objects that arouse their interest, sharks resort to biting them to find out more, and it's these exploratory nibbles that are often misinterpreted as attacks. Mind you, the great white has a bite pressure of well over one ton per square inch, so you don't really want it to 'explore' you if you can help it! If you ever find yourself facing a shark, and it appears to bow to you, rucking the skin of its neck into great folds, look out, because this is the signal that a shark feels threatened and is about to attack!



A selection of images from the Real Things Safari disks. In future, this may become the only way that you'll ever see a tiger or elephant.



➢ through binoculars, prowling through long grass. This impressive scene immediately indicates the standards that the user can achieve. The scenery is quite simple, but the animal itself is little short of photographic in quality. I could almost hear the grass rustling!

Also on the same disk is something that RGB call a Zebra construct. Despite its technical-sounding name, this is simply a series of individual screens which you can join together to create a running zebra. I'm not a hundred percent sure why RGB included it on the disk, but my guess would be that it's there to give you an appreciation of the process involved in creating your own animations. Whatever their reasoning, the zebra is an impressive showcase.

In the Line & Palette directory, there's an animated lioness which has been created using an extremely stylised fashion, describing the animal in broad bands of light and shade rather than attempting to represent every single hair on its body. This is an interesting way of depicting the beast because muscle movement is highlighted, giving far greater clarity than if it had included much more detail. Although it's the only animal represented in this manner, it reminds the user to view things from different perspectives.The remaining animals are all stored as anim. brushes and this means that they can be included in an existing animation or picture without having to mess around with spare screens, etc.

The icing on the cake can be found on the second disk, where a number of scenery elements are stored. These include grasses, trees and some valuable tips on creating shading for complicated shapes.

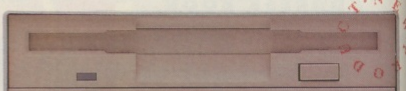
ANIMAL CRACKERS

The people at RGB Studios are clearly great nature lovers and proficient artists. Each animation has been lovingly rendered so that, rather than being just a pixellated representation of an animal, it conveys the essence of the animal's nature.

It would be too easy to simply digitise and tidy up a picture, but to capture the sense of majesty and latent power about the animal requires more than just a camera. The crea- ➢

Where you can stick it.





Viruses, disk swapping, clicking drives, disks which won't back up. Is there no end to the whingeing of the Amiga user?

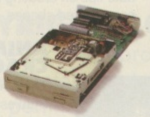
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tures included in both sets are drawn using the minimum number of colours possible. RGB Studios say that this is to make them accessible to users with the smallest amount of available memory. As most animations are created in sixteen-colours or less, it also means that creatures using different palettes can still be incorporated into the same scene.

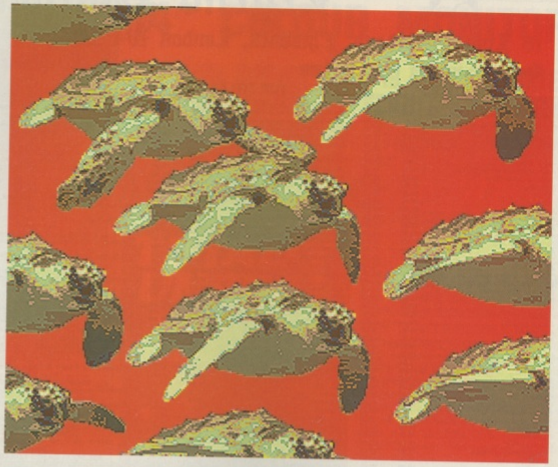
CONCLUSION

Although most users are bound to derive pleasure doodling with *Real Things*, they are clearly capable of much more than that. Forming an exciting addition to an already superb collection, there is a marked improvement in the quality of the images over their predecessors. Additionally, the enclosed manual is full of valuable tips to help the user get the best from them. Although they are a little pricey for such a specific task, *Real Things Safari* and *Sea Life* can be thoroughly recommended as an interesting aside.

VERDICT

- Extremely realistic movements
- Can be used with any packages that support the anim.brush format
- Easily incorporated into your own demos

★★★★





Above: Most creatures are provided as Anim brushes ready for you to stamp down on the screen wherever you like.

Left: A leopard stealthily glides through the long grass in the *Safari* demo. Can you spot it?

THE COMPLETE SET

Here's the list of currently available Real Things;

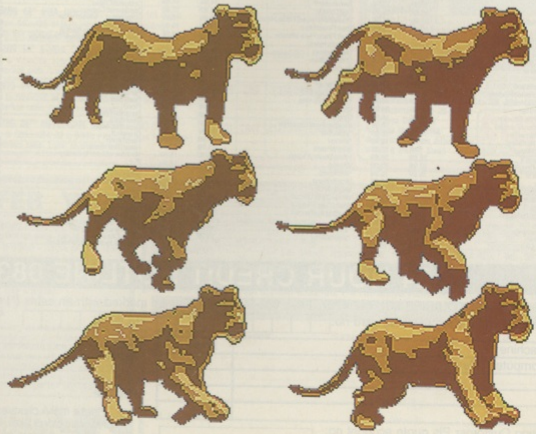
HORSES – Horses in motion: jumping, galloping, cantering, etc.

HUMANS – The human as an athlete, running etc.

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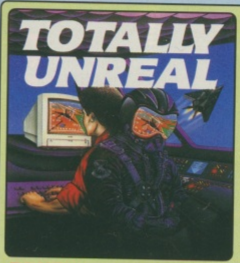
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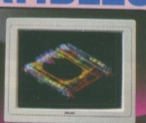
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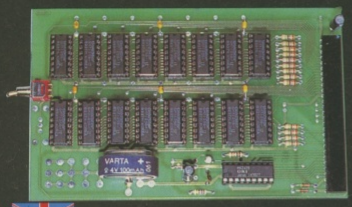
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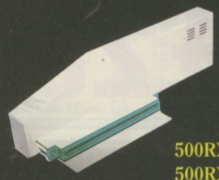
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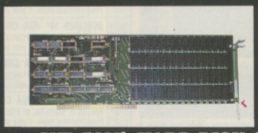
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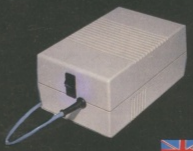


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laser love

Laser printers offer high print quality at an equally high price. Paul Clarke looks at the Star Laser Printer 4 to see if it offers anything new.



Laser printers offer a cheap source of high-quality prints. Unfortunately, most laser printers are prohibitively expensive for the average home user although recent years have seen a steady reduction in their prices. The Star Laser Printer 4 is one of the new breed of cheap printers.

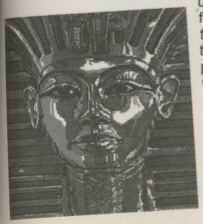
The printer company, Star, have an immense reputation, particularly among first-time buyers, but who knows that the company also makes cut-price laser printers?

LIGHT SPEED?

The Laser Printer 4 (LP4) claims to offer professional-quality printing at a budget price. It prints at four A4 pages per minute (peak performance), and although this may sound fast compared to dot matrix printers, it's slow as far as laser printers go, with most printing at six pages per minute or more.

EASY START-UP

Before printing, the LP4 must be configured to work with the Amiga, and as long as the comprehensive instruction manual is followed to the letter, this is a simple task which shouldn't take more than ten minutes.



The LP4 is capable of emulating an Epson FX850 or a HP Laserjet II, with IBM Proprinter emulation also available as an optional extra. I used the HP LaserJet I driver from the Workbench 1.3 extras disk, and, although this was not the exact driver specified, I found no problems printing either text or graphics. All the set-up routines are accessed via programming pads on the front of the printer, alongside which is an LCD display window to show selections as they're made.

As usual, the printer is connected to the Amiga via the parallel interface, although AppleTalk and Serial interfaces are also available for use with other computers.

FIELD TEST

I tested the printer with a variety of packages, including *DPaint*, *Scribble!* and *Professional Page*. I was very impressed with the subtlety of the graphics printing, and found that it was also capable of producing a full sixteen-shade spread from black to white. When printing text from a word processor, the LP4 was more than adequate in terms of quality, although I'm not a great fan of the standard typefaces that are provided with it. Instead of Courier and Lineprinter, I would have liked to have seen Star show the same imagination that they did with their dot matrix printers, and provide some creative-looking fonts.

As graphics have to be down-loaded a whole page at a time, the LP4 comes with one meg of memory as standard, and this can be upgraded up to 4MB if required. The machine I used had 2MB, and this was quite sufficient for the most complicated pages that I could find to print. It was when printing pages from my *Pro Page* DTP package, that I discovered how slow a four-page per minute printer is. Although it can print four pages per minute once they're down-loaded, it takes the same time to down-load a picture to the LP4, as it does to transmit to a dot matrix printer. When printing a full page, complete with text and structured and bit-mapped graphics, I found the LP4 took as much as fifteen minutes to print a single sheet. Had I printed the same page ten times, only the first page would have taken that long, with all consecutive ones only taking about fifteen seconds each.

The LP4 is available with or without Post-Script compatibility (which allows far greater image and font manipulation). The standard version costs £999.99 and the Post-Script version £1399.99.

The LP4 is not particularly cheap and, if you hunt around, you can find superior laser printers in the same price bracket. Compared to a dot matrix printer, the quality of the output was superb, but pitted alongside other laser printers of this price, the LP4's was rather ordinary.

It was a luxury to have a laser printer available for a few weeks, but pound for pound, I'd much sooner stick with my Canon BJ-10e bubble jet. It's not as fast, but the ink cartridges are cheaper, it's easier to maintain, and it doesn't take up nearly as much space.

ADDRESS BOOK

Star Micronics UK Limited, Star House, Peregrine Business Park, Gomm Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP13 7DL. Tel: 0494 471111.

VERDICT

- Far superior to the best dot matrix printer
- Not as cheap as it might be
- Very easy-to-use installation routines
- Fairly compact size
- Prints four pages per minute (slow)
- Very quiet

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Keep on *moving*

Add style to your video productions with some animated typefaces. Mat Broomfield gets on the move with Kara fonts.

If you're interested in home video production, and already use a Genlock, Kara fonts could be just the thing to add a little extra polish to your productions. They're sophisticated fonts which move, and there are several sets available. Each set comprises a standard Amiga font and an animated font in the selected style.

The former typeface is a full-colour font which can be loaded and typed through any package which supports colour fonts. The latter provides the user with an entire alphabet, including upper and lower case letters and symbols each stored individually in the anim. brush format.



ANIMATED FONTS

To create animated words, the text to be animated must first be typed using the normal font. Having transferred this text to a spare screen, it's used as a template when adding the anim. brush letters, a character at a time. The process is quite time-consuming, but is considerably quicker than drawing each frame manually. A number of different palettes are also provided, and these will let the user transform the entire appearance of their animations in seconds, effectively increasing the number of fonts available.

CONCLUSION

Kara's Animated Fonts are a great idea which will save the user hours of time. They're simple and enjoyable to use, and will add a truly professional appearance to any productions, be they on video or on the Amiga.

If you're as concerned about the finishing touches of your creations, as you are about the rest of it, Anim.fonts will ensure that your work starts and ends in real style.

VERDICT

- Easy to use animated fonts
- Create professional results quickly
- Ideal for video productions

★★★★

ADDRESS BOOK

Kara Fonts cost £40.82 and are available from HB Marketing, Unit 3, Poyle 14, Newlands Road, Colnbrook, Slough, SL3 0DX. Tel: 0753 686000.

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CU Amiga operate a number of services especially for our readers. So, don't hesitate if you want to drop us a line to air an opinion, or to make a specific enquiry to one of our panel of experts. All are only a post box away.

Q+A



Don't let your computer have a micro-migrane. Our technical editor is always ready to give help before you relegate your hardware or software to silicon heaven.

HELPLINE

Is a pixel punk preventing you from finishing your favourite game? Readers' queries and readers' answers for all those life saving cheats and pokes can be found in the Adventure and Games Helpline pages.

BACKCHAT



Need to rant and rave, but auntie Gladys won't listen? Don't worry, we'll talk to anyone. So, if you wondering where that ace looking game you read about 10 months ago has got to, or you just want to moan about the price of software, this is the place to do it.

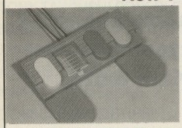
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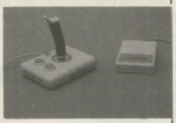


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Sprites, camera, action!



If you want to create professional demos or presentations, *The Director II* from Right Answers is the essential accessory. Mat Broomfield rolls 'em...

JACK OF ALL TRADES

There are countless packages which can play music and samples, show pictures, replay animations or synchronise sound to motion. *Director II* is one of the few packages which can do all of these functions and a lot more besides. As its title implies, *Director II* choreographs all the different elements which go towards making a successful demo or educational/business presentation. It can replay animations, in whole or part, and it can play tunes saved in the SMUS (Sonix) format. Additionally, it can display screens using a variety of fade and wipe styles and combine areas of one picture with another both statically and as animations. In short, it's a complete demo studio.

NEARLY BASIC

Commands are issued to *Director II* via a programming language similar to Basic. In fact, many Basic commands are included and the syntax (grammar) is almost identical in some areas. For example, the program supports the use of FOR...NEXT loops, IF...THEN/ELSE statements and many other commands which Basic programmers will recognise.

Some commands have been refined and simplified so that they're easier to use. In many dialects of Basic a FOR...NEXT loop requires a variable to be assigned at the start of the loop (FOR A=6...NEXT A, for instance). *Director II* allows you to abbreviate that to: FOR 6...NEXT. Only the number of repetitions of the loop needs to be specified (six in this case). On occasions where the variable name is required, it can be given.

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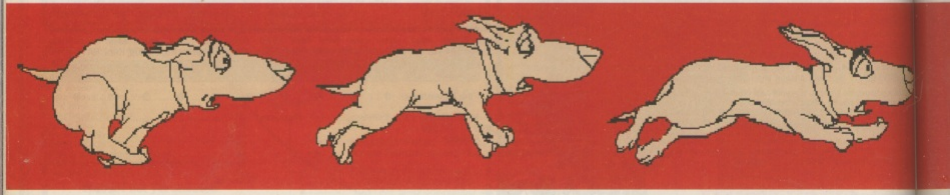
The Director 2 costs £102.12 and is available from HB Marketing, Unit 3, Poyle 14, Newlands Road, Colnbrook, Slough, SL3 0DX. Tel: 0753 686000.

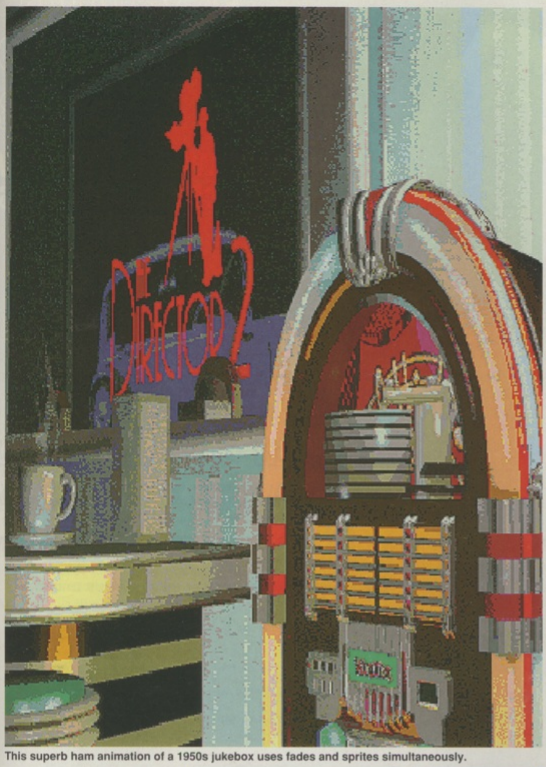
THE HEART OF THE MACHINE

At the heart of the package's abilities are special memory stores called buffers. Buffers are areas in memory into which graphics, sounds, music and fonts can be loaded. It's the way that the program manipulates these buffers that makes it so special, though.

There are two basic types of buffer: the chip buffer and the fast buffer with further sub-divisions according to what's stored in them. Understanding the difference between the two can be crucial when creating effects. The blitter chip is a custom chip inside the Amiga which can move blocks of graphics around the computer's memory extremely quickly, thus making it ideal for animation purposes. However, the blitter can only manipulate graphics stored in chip buffers.

As you've probably guessed, chip buffers store their information in Chip RAM. As this is usually limited to a max-



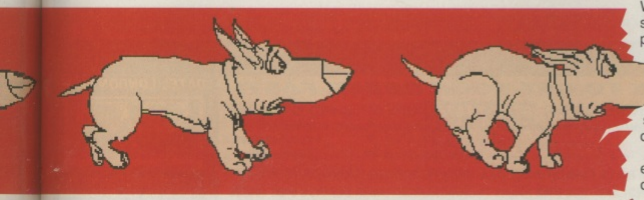


This superb ham animation of a 1950s jukebox uses fades and sprites simultaneously.

imum of 2Mb, even on powerful Amigas, careful management is sometimes required to create an effective program. Fast buffers use Fast RAM (often referred to as expansion RAM) as their store. Information stored in fast buffers can't be acted upon by the blitter unless it's transferred into chip buffers first.



Below: This 5 frame page-flip animation of a running hound can be created in less than 10 program lines.



DICTIONARY

ANIM – The standard format for compressed animations. To save memory, programs such as *DPaint* store just the differences between consecutive frames rather than storing an entire screen each time.

MIDI – Musical Instrument Digital Interface – The music industry's standard interface for connecting computers to instruments.

PAGE FLIPPING – Creating animation by rapidly displaying a sequence of screens.

SMUS – Simple Musical Score – This is the earliest attempt to create a standardised format for music scores on the Amiga. Unfortunately, it's very limited in that it doesn't allow effects to be applied to notes (slides, vibrato etc), and triplets/quintuplets and tied notes aren't supported.

SPRITE – A user-defined graphic character which has special Amiga hardware assigned to controlling it quickly and efficiently.

SWAPSIES

This raises another very important concept which is integral to many of *The Director*'s operations: double buffering. Although *The Director II* can manipulate anim. files, there are occasions when the user may prefer to animate by flipping through multiple screens (page-flipping). Alternately, he may only wish to transform part of a screen by printing small graphic characters onto it.

Double buffering allows any of these operations to be carried out with ease. For example, there are occasions when a user may need to print a lot of text on to a screen. It's both time consuming and clumsy if the text was printed character by character, so a duplicate is copied to an invisible buffer. The text is then printed onto this buffer, which is only displayed once all the text is in position, thus making the whole process appear instantaneous and much more professional. Invisible buffers can also be used for image processing purposes, perhaps taking the currently displayed screen and altering its palette to create night-time or negative effects.

WIPE OUT

The Director's most basic use is for creating slideshows. However, even in this capacity it offers far more options than other construction packages. Using the Wipe, Fade, and Dissolve commands, screens can be made to disintegrate pixel by pixel or even to slide on and off the screen in several directions.

There are various fade modes including one where all colour gradually drains from a screen or smoothly changes from the palette of one screen to that of another.

Slideshows can be designed which either display new screens after a period of time, or respond to user input such as ➢



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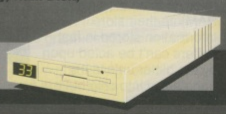
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Sprites, camera, action!

mouse clicks or key presses to activate screen changes. By extending this principle a little further, full-screen animation can be generated which rapidly displays sequential screens at a rate of up to about 20 per second. Sprites can also be manipulated, offering yet another way to generate animations. Also, these sprites can be moved freely over any screen buffer regardless of whether they are visible.

Director II can replay any IFF or SMUS samples, allowing the possibility of adding atmospheric sound effects. Although the package can also replay music modules, it only deals with data stored in the outdated SMUS format. Programs such as *Sonix* and *Deluxe Music Construction Set* are capable of generating these files, but the quality of music is very limited compared to recent software such as *MED*. Having said that, it does allow the execution of CLI commands so there's no reason why you couldn't play a *MED* or *Soundtracker* tune in this manner.

Unfortunately, if you choose to load non-SMUS modules, you'll miss out on one of *Director II*'s most exciting features: audio-visual synchronisation. These are a special series of commands which tell the computer to react each time certain instruments are played. For example, if you load a SMUS score containing a drum, you can tell the computer to play a particular animation each time the drum occurs within the tune.

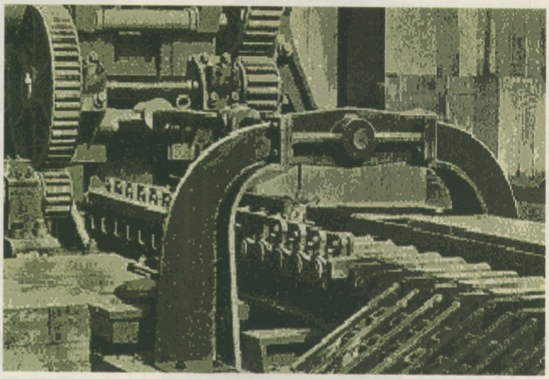
Incidentally, *Director II* also handles the SMUS MIDI format, so programs can be written which will play any MIDI compatible instruments you may own.

EASY EDITING

Unlike its predecessor, *Director II* is supplied with its own editing software called *D-Edit* from which you can write, test and run your programs. It's extremely easy to use, and means that you can move from program to the finished result in virtually no time. *D-Edit* resembles a standard text-editor in many ways. It includes cut/paste options and search/replace facilities, however, it also provides direct access to most of the *Director*'s other utilities, including the Library routines. Library routines can be very important when working on a machine with limited memory. They also provide instructions for some of the Wipe animation effects. If a program doesn't require these, they are ignored, thereby saving memory. Additionally, you can also add your own library routines.



With the *Director* it's easy to synchronise motion with particular musical events.



Although quite expensive, *Director II* is a very powerful graphics and sound utility.

CONCLUSION

Director II is an extremely useful tool for linking together many different types of data and turning them into impressive demos. Whilst it's true that you'll have to learn to program, the language is considerably easier to master than the likes of *AMOS Basic*.

It's greatest failing is its inability to directly support *MED* or *Soundtracker*-style scores, which becomes especially irritating when sound-to-graphics synchronisation is required. It's by no means cheap, but it could be the tool that finally allows many people to write their own demos.

VERDICT

- **Very powerful sound & graphic production language**
- **Allows sound and animation synchronisation**
- **Only supports SMUS music scores**
- **Quick and easy to learn**
- **Quite expensive**

★★★

SPEEDY SLIDE SHOW

To demonstrate how easy *Director II* is to use, here's a quick slideshow program. The line numbers (1-8) are for reference only and don't form part of the program:

1 LOAD 1 "Picture1" **2** LOAD 2 "Picture2"
3 /:start **4** DISPLAY 1 **5** PAUSE 10
6 DISPLAY 2 **7** PAUSE 10 **8** GOTO start

The program loads a screen and displays it for one second before loading another screen and displaying that for a second. It then loops around and starts again. Here's how it works:

1 LOAD 1 "Picture1" – This loads a screen called Picture1 into memory buffer

2 LOAD 2 "Picture2" – This loads Picture2 into memory buffer 2.

3 /:start – This is known as a label. It's simply a marker so that you can refer to that part of the program. See line 8.

4 DISPLAY 1 – This displays the contents of buffer 1 (picture1) on the screen.

5 PAUSE 10 – Makes the computer wait for one second before continuing to the next command.

6 DISPLAY 2 – The computer displays the contents of buffer 2 on the screen.

7 PAUSE 10 – Another one second

8 GOTO start – This tells the program to go to the line labelled 'start' and carry on from there.

The above program requires only the most minor adaptations to produce page-flipping animation. If the pauses are reduced to a tenth of a second, for example, the screens would flash past quickly enough to appear to be in motion. Load a few more screens and display those as part of the sequence and there you have it: full-screen animation in less than ten lines of program!

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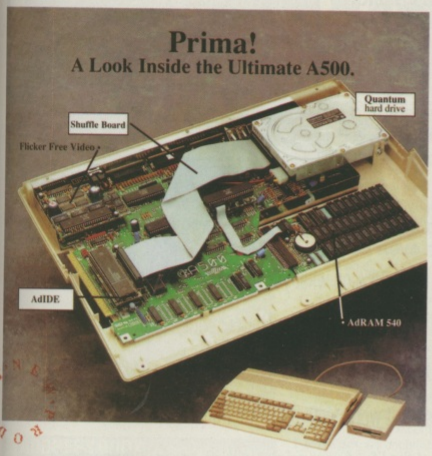
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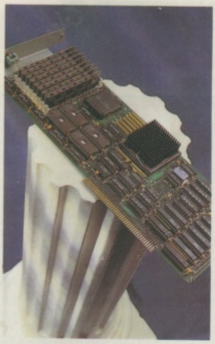


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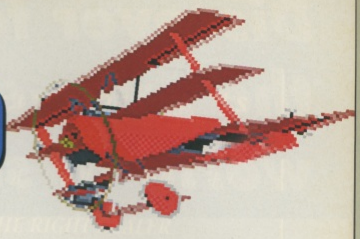
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Virtual video



Raster-man, Brian Close, finds a PAL in Videoscape 3D.



ADDRESS BOOK You can find out more about *Videoscape 3D* from Centresoft, Units 2&3, Holford way, Holford, Birmingham, B6 7AX. Tel: 021 356 33 88.

MEMORY MAN

There's no disputing the fact that animation gobbles up memory – especially when coupled with Ray-tracing. To create animations of any duration using these systems requires either colossal processing power or immense amounts of time.

For users who simply require 3D representations of objects, rather than colour-perfect duplications of them, a package such as *Videoscape 3D* may be the answer. Rather than attempting to calculate the exact shading of every point on an object, it uses greatly simplified pseudo-shading algorithms to generate areas of light and shade. Whilst it's hardly 100% realistic, though, these algorithms result in objects which have visible depth and dimensions, and which are rendered in a fraction of the time needed to generate the Ray-Traced equivalent.

The latest version provides a number of enhancements that add more power to the ageing basic package. The addition of HAM mode support, and new colour codes which add further realism, will doubtless prove to be welcome additions for people who're familiar with the original program.

SCAPE GOAT

Videoscape 3D allows the user to render and animate complex scenes in a fraction of the time it would take using a Ray-Tracing package. However, the resultant image is appropriately less convincing as a representation of 'real' objects. As a presentation or educational tool, *Videoscape 2.0* has some merit, and compared to packages such as *Amos 3D* and the *3D Construction Kit*, it's far more powerful. The animation tools allow 'movies' to be defined fairly quickly, and the addition of hierarchic motion (which specifies the movement of an object relative to its 'parent') makes very complex animation feasible. Perhaps a little expensive at £89.99, *Videoscape* is an interesting and speedy alternative to Ray-Tracing.

VERDICT

- Powerful 3D modelling tool
- Better than *3D Construction Kit* and *Amos 3D*
- Easy to define animation
- Provides simulated shading

Step the light fan-dango

How about a light pen that looks good, feels right and makes artistry more easy? Mat Broomfield draws his own conclusions.

REDUNDANT MOUSE

Many artists hate using a mouse. Trojan obviously recognised this because their Light Pen can draw directly onto the screen. Made of smart grey plastic, it measures just under six inches, and has a square cross-section with each side approximately 3/4 of an inch across. It has two fingertip sized buttons mounted close to its tapered end which replace the mouse buttons.

The Light Pen plugs into port two at the back of the Amiga, and co-exists quite happily with the mouse, which can be left in the other port as usual.

Before it can be used, you must run the Light Pen installation software which is supplied on a normal Workbench disk. This can either be auto-booted, or activated from CLI once your other software has loaded.

Just point the pen at the screen, and provided you're within its range (about 7 inches), the on-screen cursor will move wherever you want it to. The button nearest the screen duplicates the left mouse button, with the other one simulating the right button. I found that my index finger naturally rested on the lower button whilst my middle finger sat snugly on the other one.

The Light Pen mimics all the functions of the mouse, but, warn Trojan, it'll only work with programs that use the standard Amiga operating system. Most games and, surprisingly, *D-Paint II* don't, but *D-Paint III* and *IV*, *Music X*, *Pro Page*, *Audio Master II*, and *MED* are just a few of the programs that definitely DO work with the unit.

KWIK ON THE DRAW

The Light Pen is also supplied with a proprietary art package called *Kwik Draw*. It provides a number of *D-Paint* style options including freehand draw, lines, circles and several other simple tools. Trojan describe *Kwik Draw* as a simple paint/drawing package, but it can still handle all screen formats from sixteen colour right up to 4096 coloured HAM mode.

The pen worked exactly as described, and operated further from the screen than I'd expected. The cursor didn't seem to follow its tip quite as instantly or closely as I'd have liked, and my arm soon became tired holding it up to the screen all the time. Perhaps I'd eventually get used to it, but I was not as happy with the pen as I thought I'd be.

The driver supplied didn't work with an Amiga Plus machine, so it's fair to assume that it's incompatible with 2.0 system ROMs. This would seem to rule it out if you want to use it with new A1500s, A2000s or A3000 computers. Check before you buy.

VERDICT

- Works perfectly
- More natural than a mouse
- Makes your arm very tired
- Works with most mouse driven programs
- Doesn't work with A500 Plus
- Allows you to use the mouse as well

ADDRESS BOOK The Light Pen is available from Trojan Products, Unit 7, Dafen Industrial Estate, Llanelli, Dyfed, SA14 8LX. Tel: 0554 777993.

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THE INTEGRAL COMPACT DISK DRIVE, IS THE KEY TO THE POWER OF CDTV. ITS STORAGE CAPACITY IS EQUIVALENT TO AROUND A QUARTER OF A MILLION FULL PAGES OF TEXT. THIS WHEN INTEGRATED WITH THE 1 MB OF INTERNAL AMIGA CIRCUITRY, CREATES A SYSTEM, WHICH FROM A CD DISK, CAN GIVE YOU ACCESS TO AN UNIMAGINABLE SPECTRUM OF REAL WORLD IMAGES, NEVER SEEN COMBINED BEFORE. THESE VIVID IMAGES, WITH WORDS AND SOUNDS, GIVE YOU A WHOLE NEW DIMENSION IN HOME EDUCATION, ENTERTAINMENT & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY. AND... DON'T FORGET, THAT CDTV CAN PLAY IN SUPERB QUALITY, ANY NORMAL AUDIO MUSIC CD, AND IT CAN ALSO PLAY THE NEW CD+G DISKS, WHICH GIVE DIGITAL SOUND AND ON SCREEN GRAPHICS.

ON CD DISKS NOW AVAILABLE, THERE ARE EDUCATIONAL PACKAGES, ENCYCLOPAEDIAS PACKED WITH REFERENCE INFORMATION, STUNNING GAMES, MUSIC SYSTEMS AND MANY OTHER NEW AND VARIED SUBJECTS, INCLUDING WHOLE WORLD ATLASES OR EVEN THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE, EACH ON ONE CD DISK!!! **CDTV - NOTHING LESS THAN REVOLUTIONARY**

FREE CDTV STARTER PACK!!!

WHEN YOU CHOOSE YOUR CDTV FROM GORDON HARWOOD, NOT ONLY DO YOU GET OUR LEGENDARY SERVICE, BUT WE GIVE YOU A CDTV STARTER PACK, TO GET YOU EXPLORING YOUR NEW WORLD – STRAIGHTAWAY. THIS INCLUDES A SUPERB SELECTION OF CD DISK TITLES INCLUDING THE WELCOME TUTORIAL & HUTCHINSONS ENCYCLOPAEDIA,PLUS... FIVE GAMES, SHERLOCK HOLMES & THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, SIM CITY, CHAOS IN ANDROMEDA AND THE ACCLAIMED LEMMINGS, WORTH IN TOTAL ALMOST £200.00. IN ADDITION IS THE INFRARED REMOTE CONTROLLER, AND ALL THE HARDWARE NEEDED TO GET YOU CONNECTED.

ALL THIS FOR JUST £499.95

CDTV IS THE SAME SIZE AND STYLE AS MOST VIDEO RECORDERS, SO IT CAN SIT UNOBTRUSIVELY ABOVE OR BELOW YOUR HOME TV AND/OR HI-FI. AND WITH ITS INFRARED REMOTE CONTROLLER, IT CAN BE OPERATED FROM YOUR ARMCHAIR. BUT PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU ARE A COMPUTER ENTHUSIAST, REMEMBER THAT INSIDE EVERY CDTV, IS AN AMIGA, JUST WAITING TO BE USED. SO LATER ON, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BUY THE OPTIONAL KEYBOARD AND DISK DRIVE, TO GET INTO THE WORLD OF AMIGA COMPUTING. PRINTERS, DIGITISERS, GENLOCKS AND OTHER ACCESSORIES,CAN ALL BE CONNECTED TO GIVE ACCESS TO MANY OTHER EXCITING FACILITIES, AND ALSO MANY OF THE EXISTING SOFTWARE PACKAGES AVAILABLE FOR THE AMIGA COMPUTER. NEVER BEFORE HAS THERE BEEN SO MUCH POTENTIAL FROM ONE NEW STUNNING SYSTEM, PACKED WITH

TODAYS TECHNOLOGY.!

CALL IN AND SEE US FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEMONSTRATION, OR PHONE US FOR YOUR FREE DETAILED CDTV INFORMATION PACK.

CDTV ACCESSORIES

DUE TO BE RELEASED SOON - Please call us for latest availability.

CD 1220 KEYBOARD	AN 89 KEY QWERTY KEYBOARD	£49.95
CD 1252 MOUSE	INFRARED MOUSE WITH BATTERY SAVER.	£49.95
CD 1200 TRACKBALL	INFRARED TRACKBALL, WITH THE OPTION OF DIRECT CONNECTION TO EXTEND BATTERY LIFE. DUPLICATES FUNCTIONS OF TWO BUTTON MOUSE AND INCLUDES TWO 9 PIN PORTS FOR STANDARD JOYSTICKS	£79.95
CD 1400 CADDY	FOR HOLDING CD WITHIN DRIVE	£9.95
CD 1401 MEMORY CARD	PERSONAL RAM CARD CONTAINING 64K OF MEMORY FOR STORING DATA OR AS A BOOKMARK FACILITY WITHIN CDTV	£79.95
CD 1405 MEMORY CARD	A LARGER PERSONAL RAM CARD CONTAINING 512K OF MEMORY FOR STORING DATA OR AS A BOOKMARK FACILITY WITHIN CDTV	£249.95
CD 1800 FLOPPY DRIVE	RACK MOUNTABLE FLOPPY DRIVE WITH 880K CAPACITY. CASING ALLOWS ROOM FOR ADDITIONAL HARD DRIVES OR MODEMS ETC.	£99.95
CD 1301 GENLOCK	PAL BASED VIDEO INTERFACE CARD FOR SUPERIMPOSING CDTV IMAGES OVER A VIDEO SIGNAL PROVIDED BY ANY STANDARD VIDEO SOURCE	£149.95
CD 1321 VIDEO CARD	PAL BASED VIDEO INTERFACE CARD TO ALLOW CONNECTION TO TV'S /VIDEOS REQUIRING UHF, S-VIDEO OR COMPOSITE INPUTS.	£TBC

Many Amiga Accessories & Peripherals (e.g. Printers, Disk Drives, Software etc.) are compatible with CDTV. Please phone us for compatability information.

HARWOODS AMIGA

PRO-GEN



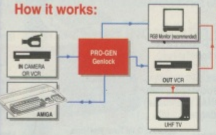
PRO-GEN Amiga Genlock

The Pro-gen AMIGA Genlock allows you to mix your Amiga display with any PAL video signal whether it is from a VCR, Laserdisk player or a Camcorder. In fact any item of video equipment which outputs a PAL composite video signal.Combined with the Amiga computer the Pro-Gen gives you the facilities of a special effects & video titling suite. Take your own films & give them a professional look by OVERLAYING TITLES or by SUPER IMPOSING YOUR OWN GRAPHICS created in packages like Spectracolor or Deluxe Paint. Pro-Gen is supplied with Oxxi's Spectra-color paint & animation package.

FREE

In Spectracolor every drawing tool and animation control is at your finger tips - over 50 tools in the fast menu Toolkit, plus point and click access to all 4096 colours, with independent right and left mouse button colours & modes. Add automatic animation generation easy mouse controls for all functions, and the ability to paint with multi-page animated brushes, and you've got a powerful tool for artistic expression. With animation controls this easy it's simple to put your ideas into motion. Forget co-ordinate systems and reference numbers just move objects with the mouse in this intuitive and friendly graphical environment. Spectracolor supports both ANIM & IFF file formats, and all the video modes of the Amiga, including HAM! (Spectracolor requires min. 1Mb. memory)

How it works:



STOP PRESS

PRO-GEN... NOW INCLUDES A VERY VERSATILE MULTI COMPONENT VIDEO TO GENLOCK CONNECTING CABLE KIT. THIS ALLOWS PRO-GEN TO BE USED STRAIGHTAWAY WITH MOST POPULAR VIDEO EQUIPMENT, WITHOUT THE NEED TO HUNT DOWN THE CORRECT CONNECTING CABLES. THIS KIT CAN ALSO BE USED TO CONNECT IN OTHER WAYS... eg. VCR TO VCR etc.
A KIT TO START YOU OFF RIGHT FROM THE MOMENT YOU OPEN THE BOX!!!

PRO-GEN & Spectracolor ONLY £129.95

Mode Switch-box for Genlocks

Features Include
-Compatible With The Pro-Gen And Rendale 8802
-Supplied With Genlock Extender Cable Worth £9.95
-Switch-box Switches Between Foreground, Background, Video And Computer Modes.

£29.95

**Finance terms are available (subject to status) for most products, please see our ordering panel at the end of this advert for full details*

AMIGA STORAGE DEVICES

Commodore A590 20Mb HD

Features Include
- ☆ Connects to sidecar bus on left hand side of Amiga A500
- ☆ Autoboots with Kickstart 1.3
- ☆ Sockets For Up to 2 Mb of RAM
- ☆ DMA Access
- ☆ External SCSI Port
- ☆ Complete With Power Supply

A590 Hard Disk Including 512K RAM Only **£299.95**

A590 Hard Disk Including 1 Mb. RAM Only **£319.95**

A590 Hard Disk Including 2 Mb. RAM Only **£349.95**



Cumana CAX354 3.5" External 2nd Disk Drive.
- ☆ Features Include
- ☆ Long connecting cable
- ☆ 1Mb, (880K Formatted) Capacity
- ☆ Enable/Disable Switch,
- ☆ Throughport
- ☆ Access Light
- ☆ Compatible with Amiga 500/1000/1500/2000/3000 and CDTV

£57.95

SUPRA 500XP 52-105Mb HARD DISK DRIVE WITH MEMORY EXPANSION UP TO 8Mb.

Features Include:
- ☆ Capacities of 52/80/105Mb available
- ☆ Connects to sidecar bus on L/H side of Amiga A500
- ☆ Autoboots with Kickstart 1.3, boot enable/disable switch
- ☆ Sockets for up to 8 Mb of FASTRAM with enable/disable switch
- ☆ Autoboots With Kickstart 1.3
- ☆ SCSI Port & Amiga bus pass thru allows other devices to be connected
- ☆ Includes Express Copy hard drive Back-up Software
- ☆ The 52 Mb version powered by your Amiga (High Current Power Supply is only optional). *High Current Power Supply is required for 80Mb. and 105 Mb versions.

Only **£49.95**

SUPRA PRICES	RAM SIZE	STORAGE CAPACITY 52Mb.	80Mb.	105Mb.
	1Mb.	£479.95	*£539.95	*£629.95
	2Mb.	£499.95	*£569.95	*£649.95
	4Mb.	£699.95	*£749.95	*£849.95
	8Mb.	£899.95	*949.95	*1049.95

*Please don't forget to add the cost of Power Supply when calculating price of 80/105Mb. drives

EDUCATION SOFTWARE

DON'T JUST PLAY GAMES WHEN YOU CAN LEARN WITH YOUR AMIGA TOO!

PRIMARY MATHS COURSE - Ages 3 to 12. Complete 24 Programme Course. **£21.95**

BETTER MATHS - Ages 12 to 16, Higher level to Linear & Quadratic Equations. **£21.95**

MICRO MATHS - 24 easy to use programs for GCSE ('O' Level) revision or self tuition **£21.95**

MEGA MATHS - A 9 level step by step tuition course. For mature beginners, 'A' Level studies & Micro Maths users **£21.95**

MICRO FRENCH - GCSE French tuition or revision course. Covers both spoken & written French **£21.95**

MICRO ENGLISH - A complete programe of self-tuition up to GCSE standard **£21.95**

THE THREE BEARS - Ages 5 -10, Develops imaginative thought/reading skills. **£22.95**

SPELL BOOK - Ages 4 to 6, Developed with the help of a Primary School Head Teacher to aid spelling skills. **£17.95**

PLAY AND READ - Ages 4 to 9, The complete reading tutor. Part 2 teaches spelling to the beginner at reading. **£18.95**

AMIGA PERIPHERAL PACKS

TWO GREAT PACKAGES THAT SAVE YOU MORE MONEY!

These two packs are aimed at the user who needs to get a great deal from his Amiga. A superb quality monitor, the PHILIPS CM8833/II has been put with your choice of either the CITIZEN SWIFT9 or the CITIZEN SWIFT 24 printer. You choose, but whichever combination you have the price has been designed to SAVE YOU MONEY. Buying together will save you £££'s!

PERIPHERAL PACK 1-CM8833/II + Citizen Swift 9

Only **£469.95** With a FREE PEN PAL worth £79.95

PERIPHERAL PACK 2 -CM8833 + Citizen Swift 24E

Only **£569.95** With a FREE PEN PAL worth £79.95

AMIGA SOFTWARE

Music-X: The ultimate software for professional MIDI sequencing. The software includes a configurable librarian and a synthesiser patch editor. All you need to recreate a song can be recalled from one performance file including sequences, MIDI routing, sync setup, keyboard maps & synthesiser or drum machine patch libraries. **NEW LOW PRICES - £54.95 or just £74.95 with midi-interface!**

MIDI INTERFACE (5 Port): In, Out, Through plus 2 switchable thru'/out. Includes cable. **£24.95**

AMOS: AMOS allows you to access the power of the Amiga with ease. 500 different commands make AMOS a sophisticated development language. The AMOS animation language allows you to create complex animation sequences. 300 page manual and over 80 example programs **£49.95**

Amos Add on Modules: (BOTH require Amos prog.)
Amos Compiler
Amos 3D
BUY ALL THREE AMOS PROGRAMS FOR JUST £89.95

SuperBase 4: Most powerful database available for the Amiga.Combines the ease of use of SuperBase 2 with a versatile programming language so that you can tailor your data to your own specific needs for club/business/library records etc. **£229.95**

Lattice C: An ideal tool for the C programmer whether experienced or a novice. The best way to create applications for the Amiga.Fully supports Motorola chipset. Nearly 300 functions optimised to help the user write the tightest possible code. Includes screen editor. Most Amiga C books are based around lattice. (Requires either 2 floppy drives OR a hard disk drive) **£199.95**

Deluxe Paint IV: Latest version of the Amigas first, and still the best, paint and animation package, now including HAM mode. (1 Mb. minimum memory or more recommended) **£79.95**

Vidi, The Complete Colour Solution: Vidi with RGB Splitter, Frame Grabber & Digitiser. Grabs moving colour video into 16 grey scale frames (up to 16 frames in 1Mb. Amiga) and digitises from still colour video source in up to 4096 colours in less than 1 second! Requires home VCR or video camera for grabbing. Requires video camera or VCR with perfect pause for digitising. Now comes with Spectracolor FREE!!! **£179.95**

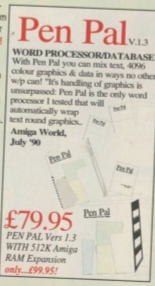
MASTERSOUND: High quality "mono" sampler (best for sampling instruments etc.) **£36.95**

THE ABOVE IS JUST A SMALL SAMPLE FROM OUR EXTENSIVE RANGE OF THOUSANDS OF SERIOUS, EDUCATION AND RECREATION TITLES.WE CAN'T LIST THEM ALL HERE.SO PLEASE CALL US IF YOU CAN'T SEE THE PROGRAM YOU REQUIRE. IT'S PROBABLY IN STOCK!

Pen Pal v1.3

WORD PROCESSOR/DATABASE

With Pen Pal you can mix text, 4096 colour graphics & data in ways no other w/p can! "It's handling of graphics is unsurpassed: Pen Pal is the only word processor I tested that will automatically wrap text round graphics." **Amiga World, July '90**



£79.95 *PEN PAL Vers 1.3 WITH 512K Amiga RAM Expansion only...£99.95!*

If you're thinking about presents why not buy a Harwoods Gift Voucher (all values available).

Enquiries & Order Line:

0773 836781

Finance Facilities Available*

Please phone us for information and your personal application pack.

GORDON HARWOOD HARWOOD HARWOOD Computers

ALFRETON DERBYSHIRE

The Closer you look, The Better we look.

*Finance terms are available (subject to status) for most products; please see our ordering panel at the end of this advert for full details

FREE- Fully Tailored Dust Cover with all Dot Matrix Printers

PRINTERS

NEW LOWER PRICES!!!

All printers in our range include the following standard features...

☆ Standard Centronics parallel port unless otherwise stated for direct connection to Amiga, PC's, ST etc. and come with a:

☆ FREE CONNECTOR LEAD & A FREE TAILORED DUST COVER!



When you are comparing our prices to others make sure that the same essential items are included eg. Printer Lead, Dust Cover, Postage and VAT etc.

CITIZEN 120D+ 9 PIN MONO - Up to 120/25 cps — £149.95

- Very reliable low cost printer with interchangable interfaces for Centronics/RS232/serial type (C64 etc.)
- Full 2 Year manufacturers warranty

NEW FASTER STAR LC20 9 PIN MONO - Up to 150/38 cps — £159.95

Replacement for our most popular Mono Dot-Matrix at a super low price

- Multiple font options easily accessible from front panel
- Excellent paper handling facilities
- Simultaneous, continuous and single sheet stationery
- 240 x 240 dpi Graphics

CITIZEN 124D 24 PIN MONO - 120/40 cps — £199.95

- 360 dpi - 24 Pin MONO with 3 Fonts
- 8K Buffer - Expandable to 32K
- 3 Fonts, Superb letter quality
- Full 2 Year Warranty
- Feed for labels & multi-part stationery
- Complete paper parking facilities.

STAR LC 24/10 24 PIN MONO - 150/50 cps — £214.95

24 Pin version of the Star LC Series with

- Exceptional letter print quality
- 360 x 360 dpi Graphics
- Additional font cartridges available
- 8 resident fonts

STAR LC200 9 PIN COLOUR PRINTER - 185/40 cps — £209.95

This is the one in our packs!

- 80 Column Dot Matrix
- 9 Pin COLOUR
- 16K Buffer, 8 Resident Fonts
- Push/pull tractor & rear/bottom feeds
- Reverse paper feeds
- Micro paper feed, Max. paper width 11.7"
- Supplied with colour & mono ribbons
- Paper park with auto single sheet loading
- Programmable from front panel.
- 12 month warranty

CITIZEN SWIFT 9 PIN COLOUR - 160/40cps — £219.95

New super high spec 9Pin colour printer

- 8K Buffer 4 Fonts
- Push and pull tractor built-in
- Feed for labels/multi part stationery
- 240 x 240 dpi Colour Graphics
- Best text quality in our 9Pin range
- 2 Year Citizen warranty

STAR LC24/200 24 PIN MONO - 220/55 cps — £249.95

New Star 24 pin that means business!

- 80 Column Dot Matrix
- 360 dpi - 24 Pin MONO
- 7K Buffer expandable to 39K
- 10 Resident Fonts
- Front Panel Pitch Selection
- Push/pull tractor & rear/bottom feeds
- Reverse paper feed
- Paper park with auto single sheet loading
- Micro paper feed, Max. paper width 11.7"
- Supplied with mono ribbon
- Faster than the old LC24-10
- Extra font cartridges available
- Program from front panel, No DIP switches
- 12 month warranty

STAR LC24/200 24 PIN COLOUR - 220/55 cps — £299.95

Colour version of the LC24-200 Mono but with expandable 30K Buffer.

NEW 24 Pin CITIZEN 224 COLOUR - 160/53 cps — £259.95

Brand New, lowest cost colour 24 Pin printer, anywhere!

- 80 Column Dot Matrix with 4 Fonts
- 360 dpi - 24 Pin COLOUR
- 8K Buffer expandable to 32K
- Easy to use front panel controls
- Push & pull tractor feeds
- Complete paper parking facilities.
- Supplied with mono & colour ribbons
- Full 2 Year Citizen Warranty

NEW 24 Pin CITIZEN SWIFT 24E COLOUR - 180/60 cps — £319.95

Brand New, superb specification colour 24 Pin printer.

- 80 Column Dot Matrix with 7 Fonts
- 360 dpi - 24 Pin COLOUR
- 8K Buffer expandable to 32K
- Easy to use LCD panel controls
- Push/pull & bottom tractor feeds
- Complete paper parking facilities.
- Supplied with mono & colour ribbons
- Full 2 Year Citizen Warranty

CITIZEN SWIFT 24 PIN COLOUR - 160/50 cps — Phone for very special prices!

The ever popular "European Printer of the Year 1990". fully featured 24 Pin colour printer which of course comes with Citizens 2 Year Warranty.

NEW FASTER STAR XB 24 PIN COLOUR RANGE XB24-200 & XB24-250 - 275/80 cps — £399.95 24-200 Colour; Wide Carriage £499.95 24-250 Colour

These NEW top of the range Stars replace the XB24/10 & XB24/15, & offer the best possible quality dot matrix printing

- Exceptional print quality
- 4 x 48Pin super letter quality fonts
- 14 x 24Pin near letter quality fonts
- Buffer: 29K(XB24/200) & 76K (XB 24/250)
- 360 x 360 dpi Colour Graphics
- 12mths on-site warranty (UK Mainland)

HEWLETT PACKARD PAINTJET COLOUR A4 INKJET — £899.95

Our best quality full colour printer at a realistic price

- Parallel/Centronics or Serial RS232 I/F (specify with order, MAC option available)
- For presentation graphics/DTP, CAD and technical/scientific applications
- A full page of colour graphics in 4 minutes (typical)
- Non impact printing,
- virtually silent, 43dba
- Will print transparencies
- 12 Months on-site warranty (UK Mainland)

STAR LASERPRINTER 4 - 4ppm MONO LASER — New! £749.95

A4 Laser Printer, will connect to PC, Amiga, Atari ST etc.

- 300 DPI, 1Mb. Upgradable to 5Mb.
- Emulations inc: HP Series II, Epson EX800, IBM Proprinter & Diablo 630
- Serial & Parallel Interfaces
- 12month on site warranty (UK Mainland)
- Every desktop publishers dream

STARSCRIPT - 4ppm POSTSCRIPT COMPATIBLE LASER — New! £1099.95

A4 Laser Printer, will connect to PC, Amiga, Atari ST & Apple Macintosh

- As the LASERPRINTER 4 but with Starscript and 2Mb Memory, 49 Fonts and Appletalk.

SEE OUR LIST OF ACCESSORIES FOR BOTH STAR AND CITIZEN PRINTERS, ALL AT COMPETITIVE PRICES!

All the characters Per Second speeds quoted above are Draft/LQ at 10cpi

PRINTER ACCESSORIES

CITIZEN PRINTER ACCESSORIES:

Citizen 120D+ Sheet Feeder	£69.95
Citizen 120D+ Parallel Interface	£49.95
Citizen 120D+ CBM C64 Serial Interface	£49.95
Citizen 124D 32K Buffer	£13.95
Citizen 124D Semi-Auto SheetFeeder	£39.95
Citizen 124D Automatic Sheet Feeder	£79.95
Citizen 124D Printer Stand	£24.95
Citizen Swift 9 Semi-Auto SheetFeeder	£39.95
Citizen Swift 9 Automatic Sheet Feeder	£79.95
Citizen Swift 9 Printer Stand	£24.95
Citizen Swift 9X Printer Stand	£34.95
Citizen Swift 9X Automatic Sheet Feeder	£139.95
Citizen Swift 24 32K Printer Buffer	£13.95
Citizen Swift 24 Semi-Auto Sheet Feeder	£39.95
Citizen Swift 24 Automatic Sheet Feeder	£79.95
Citizen Swift 24 Printer Stand	£24.95
Citizen Swift 24X Auto Sheet Feeder	£139.95
Citizen Swift 24X Printer Stand	£34.95

HEWLETT PACKARD PAINTJET PRINTER ACCESSORIES:

Hewlett Packard PaintJet	
Black Ink cartridge	£25.95
Colour Ink Cartridge	£31.49
Single Sheet Printer Paper	£17.95
Z-Fold Printer Paper	£15.95
Transparency Paper:	
Pack of 50 Sheets	£52.95

STAR PRINTER ACCESSORIES:

Star LC-20 Mono Printer Automatic SheetFeeder	£74.95
Star LC24-10 Mono Printer 32K Buffer £67.95 Automatic SheetFeeder	£67.95 £74.95
Star LC-200 Colour Printer Automatic SheetFeeder	£74.95
Star LC 24-200 Mono Printer 32K Printer Buffer Automatic SheetFeeder	£34.95 £74.95
Star LC 24-200 Colour Printer 32K Printer Buffer Automatic SheetFeeder	£34.95 £34.95
Star XB 24-200 Colour Printer Pull Tractor	£34.95
Font Cartridges - Styles To Be Announced	£29.95
128K Centronics Printer Buffer	£89.95
Automatic SheetFeeder	£114.95
Dual Bin SheetFeeder	£429.95
Star XB 24-250 Colour Printer Pull Tractor	£34.95
Font Cartridges - Styles To Be Announced	£29.95
128K Centronics Printer Buffer	£89.95
Automatic SheetFeeder	£174.95
Dual Bin SheetFeeder	£469.95



GENUINE CITIZEN & STAR REPLACEMENT PRINTER RIBBONS

PRINTER	PRINTER TYPE	BLACK RIBBON	BLACK RIBBON 'SIX PACK'	COLOUR RIBBON	COLOUR RIBBON 'SIX PACK'
CITIZEN 120D+	BLACK ONLY	£4.95	£24.95	N/A	N/A
CITIZEN 124	BLACK ONLY	£4.95	£24.95	N/A	N/A
CITIZEN SWIFT 9	BLACK/COLOUR	£4.95	£24.95	£16.95	£99.95
SWIFT 24/24E/224	BLACK/COLOUR	£4.95	£24.95	£16.95	£99.95
STAR LC10/20	BLACK/COLOUR	£4.95	£24.95	£6.90	£36.50
STAR LC200	BLACK/COLOUR	£6.95 ZX9	£36.95 ZX9	£12.95 ZX9CL	£69.95 ZX9CL
STAR LC24/200	BLACK/COLOUR	£8.95 Z24	£49.95 Z24	£14.95 X24CL	£74.95 X24CL
STAR XB RANGE	BLACK/COLOUR	£8.95 Z24	£49.95 Z24	£14.95 X24CL	£74.95 X24CL

BOOK SHOP

FOR BEGINNERS & EXPERTS ALIKE



WE ALWAYS CARRY LARGE STOCKS OF THE FULL RANGE OF ABACUS & OTHER BOOKS...Phone us for details!

AMIGA FOR BEGINNERS - VOL. 1 ABACUS BOOKS, £12.95
From unpacking your Amiga to creating your own icons, includes first use of basic and extras disk.

AMIGA BASIC INSIDE AND OUT - VOL 2 ABACUS BOOKS, £18.95
Definitive step by step guide to programming Amiga's in basic.

AMIGA MACHINE LANGUAGE - VOL 4 ABACUS BOOKS, £14.95
Practical guide to learning 68000 assembler language.

AMIGA DOS INSIDE AND OUT - VOL 6 ABACUS BOOKS, £18.45
Guide to Amiga DOS & CLI. NEW Edition inc. DOS v 2.0

AMIGA HARDWARE REFERENCE MANUAL-Addison Wesley, £21.95
Written by technical experts at Commodore Amiga Inc, USA... People who designed your Amiga. Hardware level machine code programming at advanced level.

AMIGA, BEST OF TRICKS & TIPS Vol. 17, £32.95
A complete set of tricks and tips that enable you to do MORE with your Amiga and as simply as possible.

**Credit terms are available (subject to status) for most products: see our ordering panel at the end of this advert for full details*

MONITORS & MONITOR TV's

Harwoods stock a complete range of both Monitors & Monitor TV's to give you your perfect solution to the type of display to buy.



PHILIPS CM8833/II

Stereo High Resolution Colour Monitor

NOW WITH FREE...F19 STEALTH FIGHTER!!!

The ever popular 14-inch Philips CM 8833 MkII, is the most versatile multipurpose colour monitor available. Its versatility means you not only get excellent colour graphics & text performance with a wide range of personal computers, but when connected to a VCR or optional tuner, you get an amazing 600 pixel TV picture. It's this 600 pixel resolution, that makes the 8833 essential for the serious user who wants to use his computer for text based applications. With the 8833 MkII, Harwoods give you the complete set up, to get you going straight away... Monitor, RGB picture and Stereo Audio Cables, Tailored dust cover, a full 12 Months on site service warranty, and inclusive of a FREE Superb F19 Stealth Fighter Game!!!

☆RGB/AD, TTL, Composite. Video & stereo audio inputs Can be used as a TV with VCR or Tuner Also as a Video Camera display monitor Retractable stand
☆Twin Stereo Speakers Headphone Jack Socket FREElead for your computer FREE 12 Month on site service warranty

THE MOST VERSATILE STEREO COLOUR MONITOR AVAILABLE

£249.95

CBM 1084S STEREO COLOUR MONITOR

Commodore's Own Stereo High Resolution Colour Monitor with... RGB/AUTTL, Composite. Video/Audio Inputs Can be used as TV with VCR or tuner. Twin Speakers for stereo output Supplied with cables for A500, CGA PC,\C16-64-128.

£269.95

PHILIPS TV TUNER

ALLOWS ANY MONITOR WITH COMPOSITE VIDEO & AUDIO INPUTS TO BE USED AS A TELEVISION. SUPPLIED COMPLETE WITH AERIAL FOR USE INDOORS ALSO HAS STD EXTERNAL AERIAL SOCKET AND COMPATIBLE WITH MOST MONITORS INC. PHILIPS CM8833 MK I & II, CBM 1081/4, & 1900/1/2.

£79.95

It's important to remember that most TV Monitors, are still first and foremost televisions, meaning that their average 400 pixel tube display 50% lower resolution than a monitor) cannot be guaranteed to display 80 colum text clearly without risking eye strain. If choosing a Television Monitor ensure it has the latest 2000 character tube capability, meaning it can handle the Amigas' 80 characters, by 25 line output clearly.

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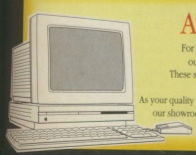
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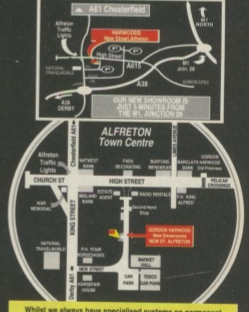
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blue pages

Feeling blue need no longer mean being down in the dumps, as CU presents no less than thirty-two pages of buyer's information, reviews, tutorials, charts, and the low-down on the Amiga scene in general. So, get ready to look, absorb and, more importantly... learn.

Page 196 sees the start of our comprehensive **Buyer's Guide,** with sixty 'serious' products taken apart for your delectation... It's a merry **Xmas** to you all on **page 209**. . .Next up we have our **Q&A** service on **page 210,** which sets out to answer all your many printer, hard disk and general Amiga enquiries and ALWAYS succeeds... In keeping with our aim to solve your many problems, **Contacts** can be found on **page 218 217** while **Helpline** opens its doors on **page 218** with valuable info on all those hard-to-beat games...For a lighter look at the Amiga scene, **Inside Info** can be found on **page 220** and is, as usual, stuffed with charts, lists and trivia....

blue pages buyers guide

Going shopping? This is the only place you need to look if you're thinking of getting a new game or gadget for your Amiga! Every item is described in detail and rated out of five. Don't leave home or pick up the phone without it...

ACTION REPLAY II

Datel Electronics

0782 744707 £59.95/£69.95

(A500/A1500)

Programming the Amiga can sometimes be very frustrating when your code causes a crash for no apparent reason. The task becomes a little easier with the help of packages such as *Devpac 2* or *Argasm* but your problems don't stop there. With Action Replay II you can now examine your code whilst it is running to see what is happening. Even if your machine has crashed, the press of a button makes it all come rushing back for further examination. You can also load almost any game and examine other programmer's code, look through memory, and save graphic images, play and save *Soundtracker* modules and samples, even put cheat modes in games and, to top it all, you never need to load this wonder widget. You just plug Action Replay into the side of your machine and forget about it. This is one piece of kit for the Amiga that's almost an essential purchase. Warning! Action Replay II only works with machines with less than four megabytes of memory.

★★★★★

AMIGA GENITIZER

Datel Electronics

0782 744707 £129.99

Using art packages like *Deluxe Paint IV* or *Photon Paint* can be a bit tricky for some people using the mouse. Now these unhappy Amiga artists can stop pulling their hair out because the Genitizer is a graphics tablet that's as simple to operate as drawing with a pen. Images can easily be copied from paper by tracing around the image. Comes complete with a *Deluxe Paint* template for easy use.

★★★★

AMIGA REPAIRS

FMG

0733 391234 £57.45

If you've had a fault with your Amiga in the past you will know how much it costs to repair. FMG is the National Repair Centre for Commodore so the work that's carried out on your machine is the best you will find.

★★★

AMOS

Europress Software

0625 859444 £49.99

There are a fair number of BASIC programming languages on the Amiga but nothing to top AMOS. The icon-driven interface and concise screen display make it a pleasure to work with. AMOS incorporates an extensive library of over 500 commands, including complete control of the hardware registers which enable you to perform pixel-perfect scrolling both vertically and horizontally, software (blitter) and hardware sprites, copperlists for rainbow colour bars like in the *Turrican II* (Rainbow Arts) and *James Pond* (Millennium) games, and a *Soundtracker/Noisetracker* player. Some useful utilities are included with *AMOS* for editing sprites, pictures and animations. *AMOS* runs at such a fast speed that you can produce quality home-grown games.

★★★★

AMOS 3D

Europress Software

0625 859444 £34.99

Almost every Amiga owner has seen solid-3D Vector images at some time, either in a Red Sector demo or games like *Thunderhawk* (*Core Design*) and *Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker* (*Virgin Games*). The programmers of these games had to perform thousands of maths calculations to produce these complex graphics, and, for the average person, balancing the weekly budget is about the limit. *AMOS 3D* is here to help. With the maths already done for you, all you are required to do is put the lines in the correct places and devise a game around them. This is easy because the software is completely icon driven and supplied with a comprehensive manual. *AMOS 3D* was written by *Voodoo Software*, the folks behind a 3D game for Electronic Zoo called *Xiphos*.

★★★

AMOS COMPILER

Europress Software **0625 859444 £29.99**

For those who are not sure what a compiler does, it's very simple. Honest! After writing your blockbuster on *AMOS* you now have the option of converting it into stand-alone machine code using the compiler. Once you have compiled your game it now reacts just like a normal game and you can start it from the CLI without loading *AMOS*. The only problem is it may run too quick to play, so you will have to incorporate some routines to slow your game down. Definitely worth a look!

★★★★

AMNUTS VIDEO VIEWER

Licenceware

PD

NEW

Young Steven Spielbergs amongst you will be delighted with this useful PD package that creates scrolling titles using any Amiga fonts. A variety of text wipes and colour fades can be achieved and it's great value.

★★★★

AUDITION 4

HB Marketing/Sunrise

***0753 686000* £49.95**

NEW

Sampling has become very popular recently and *Audition 4* is a brilliant addition to the stable.Containing most of its rivals options the most notable enhancements are the five options under the special menu that can improve the tonal quality of a sample. Unwanted high frequences can be removed with Smooth and volume can be boosted without distortion with Maximise.Totaly clean results are as easily obtainable as those with more umph. The ability to sample straight to disk and its speed makes it top of the sampling list.

★★★★★

BARS AND PIPES PRO

Precision Software

081 330 7166 £225

This has been the best MIDI package around for the last few years. The functions in the new Pro version have been upgraded. With an optional internal sound program, you can use the standard Paula sound chip of your machine.

★★★

BOOKS

Abacus

021 706 1188 £various

The manual that comes with your Amiga is pretty difficult to understand and doesn't go

into too much depth. Abacus publishes a complete range of books for beginners and advanced programmers alike. Each book is well presented and includes good descriptions, working examples and an optional disk including all the program listings. Ever-expanding range includes Amiga for Beginners, Amiga Basic, Amiga DOS, Making Music and Amiga Machine Language. Check your local book store and ask for the complete list.
★★★★★

CD-ROM DRIVE

Commodore
0628 770088 £TBA
New kid on the block, CDTV, has been available for some months now. As more and more software emerges, owners of the standard Amiga can only sit back and watch. Commodore is planning to shortly release an external CD-ROM drive allowing anybody with a one megabyte machine to play CDTV software. No price fixed as yet, but expect to pay around £350.
★★★

COLOURPIC

JCL Business Systems
0892 75791 £399
For a professional real-time full colour digitiser the ColourPic is probably the best and also the most inexpensive. Blessed with the ability to save files in all graphics modes, making it the perfect tool for any kind of work. For an extra £100, JCL will include a quality genlock to merge graphics on real-time video. !
★★★★

DELUXE PAINT IV

Electronic Arts **0753 549442 £89.99**
Since the beginning of time there has always been *Deluxe Paint*. Only just out on the streets, *Deluxe Paint* IV is alive with fresh icons, faster screen update and a host of new functions including transparency which enables you to draw over a previous picture and still see the old image, Anti-aliasing to remove all those jagged edges, metamorph from one object to another and colour mixing to find that perfect shade. If that wasn't enough, you now have access to the famous, and very gorgeous, HAM graphics mode with all 4096 colours to use at the same time. With all these functions and the ability to switch between screen modes, this becomes the best art package on the market today. So, if you're just starting out or already an experienced graphic artist *Deluxe Paint IV* should be on your Xmas shopping list. Electronic Arts is offering upgrades for users of previous versions of the software, ranging in price from £65 to £45.
★★★★★

DESKBENCH

17 Bit Software **PD**
NEW
A very unusual, but highly under-rated utility.Deskbench has been around in one form or another for months, but this souped up version has a host of extra facilities. It allows the user to define icons which execute scripts or sequences of commands and also form a neat and tidy 'desktop'. So if you're looking to tidy up your Workbench screens and cut some tedious corners this will help you no end.
★★★★★

PD OR NOT TO PD

You'll notice that a lot of the utilities featured here are available from the PD circuit and at a fraction of the cost of full-price software. More than any other computer, the Amiga has a vibrant PD scene with countless thousands of disks on offer. Sifting through all the programs on offer would be an impossible task, so CU offers a round up of all the best disks released every month. Check out our PD Utilities column on page 133.

DIGI-VIEW GOLD

NewTek **0753 686000 £149.95**
Can digitise images in any of the Amiga screen modes, even hi-res with an amazing 4096-colours. An advanced dithering routine gives the illusion of 100,000 colours on the screen. Saves images as standard IFF for use in *Deluxe Paint*. Very easy to use, just plug it in and away you go.
★★★★★

EXTERNAL FLOPPY DISK DRIVE

Evesham Micros **0386 765500 £51.99**
Evesham Micros has the perfect device for Amiga owners who don't require any special frills from their drives. Just plug it in and away you go.
★★★★

FUN SCHOOL 3

Europress Software
(0625 859444) £24.99
Teaches young children the principles of letters, numbers, colours, shapes and action words through the use of six learning programs which automatically adjust to your child's abilities. Fun School 4 has just been released.
★★★★

IMPACT SERIES 2

GVP £599 /105meg
An incredibly fast hard drive (35 times faster than a floppy) that's been specificaly designed for the Amiga. It fits nicely into the expansion port at the side of the machine. However a metal shield has to be inserted before hand to prevent interfearence from the drive and bad instillation will kill your Amiga.
★★★★

JOYSTICK TESTER

Konix **£14.95**
Has your joystick made that last great move? Is the fire button feeling a bit flat? Konix has produced what must be the most remarkable product featured in these pages. Although the Joystick Tester is aimed primarily for computer shops, it works perfectly and saves time.
★★★

KCS POWER PC

Bitcon Devices **091 490 1919 £234.99**
Much the same as the AToncе-Amiga except the KCS card plugs in under the machine through the trap door. When not in PC mode you can use the card as a memory expansion. The KCS only supports Monochrome, Hercules and CGA. EGA and VGA will follow. Supplied with MS-DOS 4.01 and GW Basic.
★★★

MASTER SOUND

Microdeal **0726 68020 £39.95**
If, after looking through all the Public Domain lists of *Soundtracker* music and dissecting hundreds of tunes you still cannot find that perfect sound, the only thing to do is sample them yourself! *Using Master Sound* there are no limits to the achievable sounds. That racing game you're designing could sure benefit from some meaty effects, so why not stand next to a Porsche 959 and get the perfect engine sound? Only the foolhardy will attempt to capture real thunder, though. Simply record these sounds onto tape, play them into your Amiga via *Master Sound*, then load *Noise Tracker* or *Quartet* and place the new sound into your piece of music or game. Hey presto, your software is enlivened with realistic audio just like the professionals. *Master Sound* is supplied with a cartridge for sampling and editor software to modify, merge and save your samples.
★★★

MIDI INTERFACE

Evesham Micros **0386 765500 £19.95**
For a professional music package you will have to purchase a MIDI interface and music keyboard. If you have never been involved in creating music it's worth buying cheap, you never know, after a couple of days you might hate it!
★★★

MUSIC X

Software Business **0480 496497 - £50/£99 (Junior/Full)**
Professional MIDI software almost the same as *Bars and Pipes* but not as friendly. Icon-driven with up to 250-track recorder. Hasn't the ability to use the standard sound chip. *Music X*

Junior also available with a cut-down version with fewer features.
★★★

NOISE TRACKER

Any PD Library **Around £2**
Your Amiga is well suited to playing sampled noises, the problem is to combine and string the samples together to make music. With the aid of *Noise Tracker* you can load up to 32 samples into memory and simply play them using keys on the Amiga. You're even able to put a few bars together, just click on an icon and the machine will remember which notes you have played. When you've finished simply play them back with just a click of the mouse button. If it sounds a bit rough at first you can always do fine alterations. After completing a few bars you can rearrange them if necessary and listen to your final composition.
★★

PAINTJET

Hewlet Packard **£999**

NEW

High cost colour printer that prints out at 180 dots per inch. Despite its high resolution it can't cpoe with solid blocks of colour and strangely enough appears grainy.Its quiet printing does not compensate for the over all poor quality of pictures it produces so spend your money elsewhere.
★

PC880B POWER DRIVE

Power Computing
0234 843388 £65
Now that almost every title available on the Amiga requires an average of three disks, it's about time you upgraded your system by adding two or more drives. *The Power Drive* is packed with some novel hardware features, including a copier that enables you to back-up unprotected disks at amazing speeds, Anti-Click to stop that annoying clicking sound when there is no disk inserted into the drive, and a Virus Blocker which prevents viruses infecting your disks. It also has a thru port allowing more drives to be connected.
★★★★★

PEN PAL

Gordon Harwood Computers
0773 836781 £79.95
Much the same as Wordworth really. Pen Pal has a 100,000 word dictionary, spell-checker and can input graphics into files. Would-be Shakespeare's can simultaneously edit up to four pages. Well-presented 250-page manual and easy to use. Database software included in the price. Mat positively raved about this one when he reviewed it a couple of issues ago.
★★★★★

PERSONAL FINANCE MANAGER

MichTron/Microdeal
0726 68020 • £29.95
A very easy to use package that allows you to be in complete control of your money worries within a couple of hours. Fully icon-driven with such features as 2D and 3D bar-graphs, pie charts, calculator and budget planner.With a 30 day full money back guarantee when bought direct from MichTron, this has to be the safest money you will ever spend.
★

PRIMA HARD DRIVE

Power Computing
0253 734218 £499
Another internal hard drive from ICD. This one fits in place of the floppy disk drive, a shuffleboard is used to relocate the external drive to (DF0:). Available in 42Mb and 105Mb versions.
★★

PROPER GRAMMAR

Gordon Harwood Computers
0773 836781 £69.95
Having difficulties mastering the complex sentence structures of our great language? *Proper Grammar* checks every word within a text document to see if you've made any tedious mistakes. Although the software is great at spotting spelling errors, its dictionary is rather limited and very American. However, there's a user dictionary which stores your personal words and phrases. Needs external drive and one megabyte of RAM and it's slow!
★★

PRO-RAM PLUS

Datel Electronics **0782 744707**
£24.99/£34.99 (with battery backup)
Normal half-megabyte memory upgrades only extend your computer's FAST memory, Pro-Ram has the option of becoming FAST or CHIP memory. Setting the expansion to CHIP enables the blitter to access the upgrade.
★★★

PRO SAMPLER STUDIO II+DATEL JAMMER

Datel Electronics **0782 744707**
£69.99
As the Amiga is a stereo machine you should be able to digitally record stereo sounds, Pro Sampler is used for just that. A software package is included for mixing, cutting, reversing and inserting samples. The hardware plugs into the edge connector and contains a thru port to accept a hard drive or Action Replay cartridge.
★★★★

QUARTET

Microdeal **0726 68020 £49.95**
Basically the same as *Noisetracker* or *Soundtracker* with a few extra options, including sound editor for changing samples and use of an external keyboard.
★★★

RAM MASTER II

Datel Electronics **0782 744707**
£99.99
Some application software requires about two megabytes of RAM to perform properly, Ram Master has 1.5 megabytes on the board, boosting your machine to an effective total of two megabytes. Installing the upgrade invalidates the warranty of your machine.
★★★

REAL 3D

Alternative Image **0533 440041 £299**
One of the more advanced graphics techniques, 3D rendering, is now becoming a standard feature on the Amiga. With the introduction of accelerator boards and 24-bit graphics adaptors, the concept of photo-realistic imagery is here. Real 3D consists of three main work screens. The first draws your objects using vector graphics, the second handles slight alterations to view and rotation, and the last sets the rendering style, speed, wire frame, colours, graphics mode and animation steps. The finished picture can then be saved to disk and viewed or animated with a small external program.
★★★★★

REFERENCE HARD DRIVE

Evesham Micros **0386 765500**
£299/£449
The price of hard drives is continuously decreasing, at Evesham Micros they have just released the Reference Hard Drive. Either 40Mb or 100Mb versions are available with a choice of either 2Mb or 4Mb internal memory upgrades. Supplied with Mr Backup Pro to backup your hard drive to floppy disks or a tape streamer.
★★★

ROCGEN GENLOCK

Evesham Micros **0386 765500**
£114.99
Genlocks are used to overlay computer graphics onto video images. These can then be recorded onto another video tape. For software develop-

THE ART OF NOISE

Anybody can produce a chart-topping sampled dance track these days, and Amiga users have a head start! All you'll need is a sampler cartridge (for around £50) and a fantastically free PD program called Noise Tracker. If you've got a MIDI-compatible music keyboard, you could control the beast from the comfort of your computer via some special software like Music X (two versions available for £50 and £100).

PIRATES BEWARE

It might have escaped your notice, but copying commercially-available software for third parties is a criminal offense. So, if you're tempted to sell copies of your new game or program to a friend, don't!

ers this enables them to watch videos whilst working.
★★★

SEIKOSHA PRINTERS

Silica Systems **081 309 1111**
£see text
Silica offers a wide range of printers for the Amiga with a £117 starting price for a 9-pin machine capable of 192cps (draft) and 48cps (NLQ). Also available is a Notebook 24-pin dot matrix model for £431 running at 144cps (draft) and 60cps (LQ). All printers are sold with a free starter kit including a 1.8 metre cable, 200 sheets of paper, 100 sticky labels and a disk containing the correct drivers.
★★★

SOUND ENHANCER

Omega Projects **0925 763946**
£34.99

NEW

Helps overcome the deficiencies in the Amiga's frequency response. Computer music and high quality samples are improved to such high quality that you'll wonder how you got on without it.
★★★★★

STAR LC-200

Star Micronics **0895 252131**
£259
The LC-200 colour printer enables you to output Deluxe Paint and Photon Paint pictures onto paper in true colour. Using a four colour ribbon, the LC-200 is able to reproduce almost any colour. Available with 9-pin or 24-pin print head.
★★★★

SUPERBASE 4 PRO

Precision Software **081 330 7166 £120**
Using a database can help you in many ways, from keeping notes of all your software collection to remembering the address of all your auntie's and uncles. *Superbase 4 Pro* is fully icon-driven with its own special VCR panel for quick movement around files. You can also load a digitised picture into your file. A very easy to use program with good screen output on both monitor and TV.
★★★★

SUPRA MODEM 2400/9600

Surface UK **081 566 6677**
£149/£499
Zapping around the world over the phone line is fun thanks to a growing number of bulletin boards. As a result, Public Domain software is becoming easier to obtain. Simply plug the modem into your computer and phone line. The supplied K-Comm software will quickly get you up and running. Available from Surface UK are the Supra Modem range – including 300-, 2400- and now 9600-baud modems (higher the baud number, quicker the data transfer, lesser the phone bill).
★★★★

TOUCH TYPIST

Sector Software **0772 452414**
£14

NEW

A handy package that comprises 402 lessons from simple letter by letter typing right up to abstract key combinations. Lots of little touches like a certificate you can fill in when you have completed the course make this agreat value pack for only £14 pounds.
★★★★

TRACK DISPLAY DRIVE

Evesham Micros **0386 765500**
£64.95
If you wish to keep an eye on what your disk is doing while it's hidden inside the drive, Evesham has come to the rescue with a drive that has a useful LED display on the front panel that informs you of which track the drive is currently reading. This can help you find tracks on a disk that are faulty or protected.
★★★

VIDEO DIGITISER II

Datel Electronics **0782 744707**
£89.99
Capturing video images on the Amiga is now a very easy task. With *Digitiser II* you can grab images then modify them using the software supplied. Optional RGB Splitter is used for separating the three colour signals, RGB, then digitising each colour to produce a full-colour image. Files can be saved as 8-, 16-, 32- and 4096-colour pictures and reloaded into Deluxe Paint. The RGB Splitter costs an extra £79.99, but it's worth every penny.
★★★

VISTA PRO

HB Marketing **0753 686000**
£79.99
Creating a realistic-looking landscape inside your machine has never been easier. Vista Pro is probably the best and most friendly to use fractal generator running on an Amiga. As soon as you load it up you're ready to start your job of Land Supervisor. The manual is very easy to follow and well presented but there is no real need to read it as the program is fully icon controlled. Rendering your final map is a bit sluggish but the finished image is well worth waiting for. *Vista Pro* will accept a 24-bit graphics adaptor without any problems.
★★★★★

WORDWORTH

Digita International **0395 270273 £129.99**
Word processing on the Amiga has been becoming more and more professional over the last couple of years. Wordworth allows you to incorporate Deluxe Paint pictures into your files and will layout your text around the image. Being totally icon-driven you shouldn't have any problems. A spell checker and thesaurus are included. The complete package comes ready to run but you will need at least one megabyte to work on files of any length.
★★

ZY-FI

Evesham Micros **0386 765500**
£39.95
If you are still listening to your Amiga's amazing sound through your old TV set then it's about time you experienced true stereo sound. Supplied with it's own power supply, ZY-FI plugs direct into the Amiga's sound ports and amplifies the sound through the supplied speakers.
★★★★

A-Z DIRECTORY OF CONTACT NUMBERS

IF YOU WISH TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS DIRECTORY, SEND DETAILS TO:

DON'T FORGET ME!, CU AMIGA, EMAP IMAGES, PRIORY COURT, 30-32 FARRINGDON LANE, LONDON EC1R 3AU.

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JOB SHOP

These publishers and software development companies are always on the look out for talented games programmers, graphic artists and musicians. Give 'em a call and say CU AMIGA sent you...

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Here at CU Amiga we pride ourselves on being *the* Amiga magazine that listens to its readers. With your help we can grow and improve the quality and depth of this publication beyond even our belief.

CU Amiga operate a number of services especially for our readers. So, don't hesitate if you want to drop us a line to air an opinion, or to make a specific enquiry to one of our panel of experts. All are only a post box away.

Q+A



Don't let your computer have a micro-migrane. Our technical editor is always ready to give help before you relegate your hard or software to silicon heaven.

HELPLINE

Is a pixel punk preventing you from finishing your favourite game. Readers queries and readers answers for all those life saving cheats and pokes can be found in the Adventure and Games Helpline pages.

BACKCHAT

Need to rant and rave, but auntie Gladys won't listen? Don't worry we'll talk to anyone. So if you wondering where that ace looking game you read about 10 months ago has got to or you just want to moan about the price of software, this is the place to do it.



You can access all these sections by writing to us, using the relevant heading, at our address: CU AMIGA, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Rd, London, EC1R 3AU.

DISKS

Even we suffer from a handful of faulty cover disks, but all is not lost as returned floppies can be replaced by being sent to: CU DISK RETURNS, PC Wise Merthyr Industrial Park, Pentreebach, Mid Glamorgan. CF48 4DR. An emergency Helpline for disk problems is run between 10.30 and 12.30 weekdays on (0443) 693233

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buyers guide

Welcome to the pleasure dome! Sit back, relax and read through the definitive guide to the greatest and latest games available today...

RATINGS	
★★★★★	supreme
★★★★	excellent
★★★	good
★★	fair
★	dodgy

ALIEN BREED

Team 17 **£24.99 Shoot'em-up**

Similar in play style to *Gauntlet* but enhanced by exceptional audio video delivery. Inspired by the imaginative Ridley Scott movie. Requires one megabyte of memory.

★★★★

AMNIOS

Psygnosis **£25.99 Shoot'em-up**

Playable eight-way scrolling shooter utilising ideas pioneered by classic arcade games like *Asteroids* and *Defender*. Weird and wonderful backdrops and sprites.

★★★

ARMOUR-GEDDON

Psygnosis **£25.99 Arcade Simulation**

Chance to drive or fly six different types of vehicle in a futuristic fusion of simulation, strategy and shoot'em-up. Full marks go to Psygnosis for this first foray into the genre. Scores over the cult classic *Carrier Command* from Realtime Games/Rainbird.

★★★★

BARBARIAN II

Psygnosis **£25.99 Arcade Adventure**

Hegor the Horrible is back in a hacker slasher which, unfortunately, doesn't live up to the *Shadow of the Beast* style of presentation.

★★

BATTLE COMMAND

Ocean **£24.99 Arcade Simulation**

Blend of sci-fi shoot 'em-up and strategy from Realtime Games of *Carrier Command* fame. Advanced 3D graphics and a plethora of missions.

★★★

BIRDS OF PREY

Electronic Arts **£34.99 Flight Simulation**

NEW

Featuring dozens of planes including the hi-tech B-2 Stealth Bomber, Boeing 747 and the Hercules transport craft and based around an East West conflict, *Birds of Prey* is one of the finest flight sims ever. Some of the more manoeuverable planes are a little hard to control, but the game incorporates a useful auto pilot system that will fly you to the various missions before you take over. Great.

★★★★★

BLUES BROTHERS

Titus **£25.99 Platform**

Fans of the cult '70s film will really get a kick out of this game. Sparkling sprite animation of the two main characters come complete with a crazy backdrop full of traps and unexpected bonuses.

★★★★

CADAVER

Imageworks **£24.99 Arcade Adventure**

Pays homage to the outstanding isometric-3D games produced by Ultimate in the Golden Age of Arcade Adventures. The Bitmap Brothers pack the five levels with quality puzzles and graphics. If only they'd added a bit more action, too.

★★★

CAPTIVE

Mindscape **£24.99 Role Playing Game**

Veteran programmer Tony Crowther's '*Dungeon Master* in space' has an almost infinite number of levels and a sometimes bewildering array of collectible gadgetry.

★★★★

CENTURION: DEFENDER OF ROME

Electronic Arts **£24.99 Arcade Strategy**

The creative force behind the legendary *Defender of the Crown* turns his attention to the Roman Empire. Command legionnaires on the battlefield, construct a fleet of boats, catch a gladiator show, and try to seduce Cleopatra. Carry on, gamers!

★★★

CHAMPION OF THE RAJ

Mirrorsoft **£25.99 Arcade Strategy**

Catch the laughable Captain Pugwash animation in Level 9's answer to those Cinemaware 'Interactive Movies' like *Defender of the Crown* and It Came from the Desert. Somewhere along the line that whole affair falls flat... about 23 seconds after inserting the disk, in fact.

★

CHUCK ROCK

Core Design **£24.99 Platform**

Prehistoric lager lout travels through five levels made of jungles, caves, underwater passages and ice chambers before a finale in the dinosaur's graveyard. Brilliant animation of some crazy creatures. A bit too easy to complete. Ungabunga!

★★★★

CRUISE FOR A CORPSE

Delphine/US Gold **£25.99 Adventure**

Gripping stuff from the Parisian software company. Agatha Christie style murder mystery using the Cinematique system. Full of French flair, especially the black and white 'flashback' sequences.

★★★★

DOUBLE DRAGON 3

Storm **£24.99 Beat 'em up**

NEW

Eagerly awaited instalment in the series. An accurate conversion of the coin-op that adds nothing new to the previous games in the style department. However, there is a slight twist to the plot and a few puzzles are included in an attempt at jazzing up the old tale, but its all been seen before. Fans might like it.

★★★

DEUTEROS

Activision **£25.99 Strategy**

Space opera about as interesting as playing with a number-crunching spreadsheet. Still, some people out there will get a kick out of this follow-up to *Millennium 2.2*...

★★

DUNGEON MASTER

FTL/Mirrorsoft **£29.99 Role Playing Game**

One of the most popular computer games of all time. It's your party of adventurers and you'll fight monsters if you want to. Excellent blend of playabillity, lastability and atmosphere. Downside? Looks a little dated in comparison to more modern games like *Eye of the Beholder* (SSI/US Gold) and *Captive* (Mindscape). *Chaos Strikes Back* (FTL/Mirrorsoft) also uses the *Dungeon Master* game engine. Requires one megabyte of memory.

★★★★

EPIC

Ocean **£25.99 Space Flight Sim**

NEW

Wing Commander on the Amigat. After years of delay DID have delivered a masterpiece of 3D space combat warfare. Protect the Federation fleet on its perilous journey through space and engage enemy fighters or embark upon eight seperate missions. A long time coming, but worth the delay. *Epic 2* is in production.

★★★★★

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

SSI/US Gold **£29.99 Role Playing Game**

A *Dungeon Master* clone that is superior to the original. Takes the idea a stage further by incorporating the feel of AD&D role-playing with improved characters and story.

★★★★★

F-15 STRIKE EAGLE II

Microprose **£34.99 Simulation**

Another in the long-line of quality flight-sims from

Microprose. Fly hundreds of missions in six warzones around the world, including the Persian Gulf, Vietnam and Central Europe. Probably the best ever Amiga flight-sim... until the next one takes off!
★★★★★

F-29 RETALIATOR

***Ocean* £24.99 • Simulation**

More an arcade game than a straight flight simulation, F-29 is brimming over with fast solid-3D graphics and fair number of 'bugs'. Contains dozens of different tactical missions with intense aerial combat and ground battles. Runcorn-based developer Digital Image Design is currently working on *Robocop 3* and *Epic*, Ocean's answer to the award-winning *Wing Commander*.
★★★★

FIRST SAMURAI

***Imageworks* £24.99 Arcade**

People behind such classics as *Cybernoid* and *Last Ninja* have produced a very playable romp. Plenty of beat'em-up action and horizontally-scrolling landscape to explore. Beautiful sprites and backdrops coupled with unusual orchestral sound effects. A cut above the rest.
★★★★★

FLAMES OF FREEDOM

***Microprose* £34.99 Arcade Strategy**

Even after all these years, *Lords of Midnight* programmer Mike Singleton can still cut it. *Midwinter II* is a technically awesome 3D adventure with 22 different forms of transport, over 1,000 intelligent characters, dozens of useable weapons and the equivalent of 1,000,000 square miles of terrain to explore. The nearest a computer game has ever come to a James Bond movie.
★★★★★

FLIGHT OF THE INTRUDER

***Spectrum Holobyte/Mirrorsoft* £34.99 Simulation**

Superior 'game-of-the-novel', based around the exploits of American carrier aircraft jocks during the Vietnam war Not bad stuff.
★★★★

GODS

***Renegade/Mindscape* £24.95 Platform**

Another corker of a game from the prolific Bitmap Brothers. Highly impressive graphics complemented by a wide range of multi-layered sound effects and samples. Utilises a novel system which makes the computer-controlled opponents respond intelligently to the actions of the player.
★★★★

GRAND PRIX

***Microprose* £34.99 Drive 'em-up**

More hot racing action from author of the award-winning *Stunt Car Racer*. Realistic, fast-moving and excellent 3D graphics. With up to sixteen tracks to choose from, you shouldn't dire of taking these Formula One buggies out for a spin.
★★★★★

GREAT GIANA SISTERS

***Rainbow Arts* £N/A Platform**

Just to be trendy, here is the ultimate underground hit. Nintendo forced this game out of punters reach because of its likeness to the mega-successful Super Mario Bros series. Praise indeed, pity the game is no longer available on the open-market.
★★★★

HEAD OVER HEELS

***Ocean* £7.99 Arcade Adventure**

This transfer of the old Spectrum game has been well worth the wait. Primitive graphics and sound but phenomenal gameplay. Hopefully, this could pave the way for adaptions of some of other eight-bit classics like *Aliens, Delta, Forbidden Forest, Lode Runner, Lords of Midnight, Park Patrol, Pastfinder, Raid on Bungling Bay, Thrust*, and so on.
★★★★★

HEIMDALL

***Core Design* £30.99 Arcade Adventure**

Graphics easily up to the standard of *Dragon's Lair* complemented by really meaty gameplay, too.The ultimate in arcade adventures... brilliant!
★★★★★

HUDSON HAWK

***Ocean* £24.99 Platform**

This Bruce Willis 'action comedy' may have bombed at the box office, but Ocean has managed to produce one of the better movie licenses of late. Basic game style never really changes but *Hudson Hawk* isn't dull so who gives a stuff?
★★★

KING'S QUEST V

***Sierra On-Line* £40.85 Adventure**

Yet another example of the classy fantasy graphic adventures coming over from our American cousins. Attractive to both novice and master. What about that price, though?
★★★★

IK+

***System 3* £9.99 Beat'em-up**

Definitive example of the genre from maverick programmer Archer Maclean. Looks and sounds like a Bruce Lee martial arts movie, incorporating frantic combat and a great sense of humour. Dramatic sampled sounds and super smooth animation of head-butt, face slap and gut punch moves make the game virtually unbeatable. Are you a karate kid?
★★★★★

KNIGHTS OF THE SKY

***Microprose* £35.99 Flight Sim**

NEW

Taking the flight sim world back down to the basics. No radar guided missiles or electronic HUD displays here just 105 horse power engines and a machine gun that's prone to jamming! Fly or die for Britain or Germany in a bi or tri plane set in WW1. Probably the fastest sim to date. Even when there's lots going on the ground detail and pace are still retained.
★★★★

LAST NINJA III

***System 3* £25.99 Arcade Adventure**

Will this martial arts saga ever finish? Concept is looking very long in the tooth though the execution is bang up-to-date. This could possibly the best beat'em-up for avid explorers.
★★★★

LEANDER

***Psygnosis* £24.99 Platform**

Head and shoulders above most other platform games, Leander smacks of those Japanese console games currently in vogue. Easily the most playable game from the Psygnosis stable but even this can become a little repetitive. Recommended.
★★★★

LEMMINGS

***Psygnosis* £24.99 Arcade Puzzle**

Take command of the wackiest collection of misdirected death-wish rodents ever seen your screen. Click on a series of icons to make your cute little *Lemmings* perform potentially life-saving skills like digging tunnels, climbing, building bridges, and so on. One of those games that will grab you until you've completed it. Psygnosis and DMA Design are promising extra level disks and a brand-new sequel.
★★★★★

LIFE AND DEATH

***Software Toolworks/Mindscape* • £30.99 • Simulation**

Unique game where you can become a surgeon in charge of some unlucky patients with gut ache! If only the operations could stretch beyond the stomach...
★★

LORD OF THE RINGS

***Interplay/Electronic Arts* £25.99 Role Playing Game**

Fabulous interpretation of Tolkien's masterwork with point 'n' click icon interface and a series of graphic and text screens to push the fantasy story forward into the 20th centuary.
★★★

LOTUS ESPRIT TURBO CHALLENGE

***Gremlin* £24.99 Drive 'em-up**

Gremlin's surprise hit of the year! The race game has a similar look and feel to the C64 classic *Pitstop II* from Epyx. Features 20 competing cars, 32 cruel courses, precious pitstops and capital controls. Ultra fast, ultra fun split-screen racing action for one or two players.
★★★★

Mike pacific buyers guide

LOTUS TURBO CHALLENGE II

***Gremlin* £25.99 Drive 'em-up**

Eagerly-awaited sequel brings eight new stages and improved graphics. Like Sega's Radmobile coin-op, *Lotus 2* also includes fancy weather effects like rain, snow and, most impressive of all, fog. In addition, four players can simultaneously compete courtesy of an ingenious link-up option. Some players have complained about the feel of this one, so try both games before you decide.

★★★★

MAGIC POCKETS

***Renegade/Mindscape* £25.99 Platform**

Overrated release which proves even the Bitmap Brothers can get it wrong. Customary excellence in graphics and sound let down by unrewarding play.

★★

MANCHESTER UNITED EUROPE

***Krisalis* £25.99 Sport**

Popular soccer game recently updated for the new international season. Features four-player option when used with special joystick adaptor. Arcade and management modes to suit everybody.

★★★★

MEGALOMANIA

***Imageworks* £30.99 Arcade Strategy**

Skillfully crafted action wargame with some super sampled sound effects and speech. Make your moves and watch hordes of little men run around the screen killing each other. The boys at Sensible Software have done players proud with a witty interpretation of the genre.

★★★★★

MICROPROSE GOLF

***Microprose* £34.99 Sports Sim**

NEW

Very strong contender for the golfing sim crown previously held by PGA. Fantastic scenery and an easy to use style of play. Different tournaments, courses and up to 72 holes to play around. You can play back your shots whenever you like and there are up to ten camera angles that twist and turn in and out following your ball during play. Better than the rest and avoids annoying disk swapping.

★★★★★

PACMANIA

***Grandslam* £N/A Arcade**

Perhaps the finest moment for the cult video game character. *Pacmania* is an old but competent conversion of the colourful Namco coin-op. Every bit of your screen is filled with pseudo-3D mazes occupied by nasty ghosties out to get our hungry hero. Excellent choice for younger players. ★★★

PANG

***Ocean* £24.99 Arcade Puzzle**

Lashings of addictive playability and loveable laughs. Even better when played with a friend.

★★★

PGA TOUR GOLF

***Electronic Arts* £24.99 Sport**

Compete against sixty PGA Tour Pros in four-round tournament play. *PGA Tour Golf* has three authentic courses (Sawgrass, Avenel and PGA West) and a bonus fantasy course. Play against one to four human or computer opponents and see your best shots again via the Instant Replay. There are plenty of golf games available on the Amiga, but none of them come close to this classic.

★★★★★

POPULOUS 2

***Bullfrog/EA* £29.99 Strategy**

One of the best games ever released. No kidding. Basically the same play principle as Populous, only everything has been improved to perfection. Try to become more powerful than Zeus by defeating a series of Greek Gods and mythological creatures. State-of-the-art gameplay and presentation. You simply cannot be without this game in your collection. There are two versions, owners of one megabyte machines are treated to even better graphics and sound.

★★★★★

POWERMONGER

***Electronic Arts* £29.99 Strategy**

From Bullfrog, the team that brought us *Populous*, this is another startling example of how original games can be created by designers who care. Life as a warlord is tough but immense fun. Spy on your enemies, bribe the meek and send in your troops to attack. Get the peasants to make food or invent something useful like agricultural machinery or destructive weapons. More of a 'real-world' simulation than Populous, with an incredible 3D representation of rivers, hills, settlements, people and battles which can be zoomed and rotated at will.

★★★★★

PRINCE OF PERSIA

***Broderbund/Domark* £24.99 Platform**

Arabian swordplay and hijinks with delicious sprite animation. Looks good, sounds good and jolly well does you good. Hey Broderbund, what about a sequel?

★★★★★

PRO TENNIS TOUR 2

***Ubisoft* £24.99 Sport**

Who needs Wimbledon when you can have the 'real-thing' all year round?

★★★★

RAILROAD TYCOON

***Microprose* £29.99 Strategy**

Build yourself a railroad empire in North America or Europe during the heyday of locomotion. Each territory has its own economy, products and resources. Players must choose the right train engine and rolling stock for the job and keep the equipment up-to-date. Newspaper headlines keep you informed of events which could bring in new opportunities for budding tycoons. Typical Sid Meier release with an exhausting amount of depth.

★★★★

RBI BASEBALL 2

***Tengen/Domark* £25.99 Sport**

Addictive simulation that hits all the bases. Perhaps other software houses should take note of how to expertly adapt a Nintendo video game to the Amiga.

★★★★

RICK DANGEROUS II

***Microprose* £24.99 Platform**

Rick is ready to greedily soak up your free-time. Beware, the game can be very frustrating to play at times.

★★★

RISE OF THE DRAGON

***Dynamix/Sierra Online* £39.99 Graphic Adventure**

Above average release inspired by Ridley Scott's Blade Runner cyberpunk film. No typing involved and it sports some lush location graphics and animations. Plenty of disk-swapping for those of us without a hard disk.

★★★

ROBIN HOOD

***Millennium/US Gold* £25.99 Strategy Adventure**

Kevin Costner and Bryan Adams have made huge amounts of cash out of our legendary hero, so why shouldn't us Brits grab a slice of the pie? *Robin Hood* is an epic game, pleasing to both the eyes and ears.

★★★

ROBOCOD

***Millennium* £24.99 Platform**

Sequel to *James Pond Secret Agent* is a real scorcher. Fantastic combination of humour, platform play and cute graphics. How can one lonely programmer produce a game of such calibre?

★★★★★

ROBOCOP 3

***Ocean* £25.99 Arcade Adventure**

NEW

An original format that breaks the usual mold of film licences. You can take the role of Robocop in this 3D environment and play the arcade sections for instant action or follow the course of the full movie adventure. Great use is made of different camera angles and the 3D animated sections keep the story moving along in a stylish cinematic manner. However game-play is limmited and the long-lasting appeal is questionable.

★★★★

RODLAND

Storm £25.99 **Platform**

One of the most playable games to hit the Amiga in a long time. This Jaleco coin-op has been cleverly brought to life without losing any of the original appeal.

★★★★

SECRET OF MONKEY ISLAND

Lucasfilm Games/US Gold £25.99 **Adventure**

There's not much you can teach the George Lucas team about creating top-quality interactive entertainment. *The Secret of Monkey Island* is superb in every respect: gorgeous graphics, seducing sounds and heaps of humour. This swashbuckling pirate adventure has absolutely no typing involved and incorporates a terrific use of dialogue. Requires one megabyte of memory.

★★★★★

SHADOW OF THE BEAST 2

Psygnosis £34.95 **Platform**

Ridiculously difficult gameplay, most impressive graphics and ever so overpriced. What else can we say? Oh yeah, Shadow of the Beast 3 will be here soon.

★★

SILENT SERVICE II

Microprose £34.99 **Strategy**

Accurate submarine simulation set in the Pacific during the Second World War which could do with a dose of excitement.

★★★

SIMCITY

Maxis/Infogrames £29.99 **Strategy**

Influential urban planning simulation which looks slightly tired against the recent batch of god games. Now sold with EA's Populous. SimCity 2 should be here next year.

★★★★

SIMPSONS - BART VS. THE SPACE MUTANTS

Ocean £24.95 **Arcade**

Shameful lack of imagination! This copy of the Acclaim Nintendo video game isn't going to impress anybody. Somebody convert the Konami coin-op, please!

★

SPEEDBALL II

Imageworks £24.99 **Sport**

Based on the cult '70s movie, Rollerball, this game is easily the best Bitmap Brothers release thus far. Skillful mix of beat'em-up and a futuristic adaptation of American Football. Possibly the last word in sports games, but we're willing to be proved wrong.

★★★★★

SPINDIZZY WORLDS

Activision £24.99 **Arcade Puzzle**

Marble Madness was one of the first games to be released on the Amiga, although we had to wait four years for the real thing. Fascinating game design.

★★★★

STAR CONTROL

Accoiade £24.95 **Shoot'em-up**

This one had the crew at EMAP Towers hogging the Amiga when it first came out. Sort of like Asteroids for the 90's with some spiffy sound samples from TV shows of bygone years. Requires one megabyte of memory.

★★

STUNT CAR RACER

Microprose £24.99 **Drive 'em-up**

Inventive and irresistible crash 'n smash race game with realistic suspension and handling of the hot-rod cars. Geoff Crammond, the brains behind Revs and Sentinel, produced some fast solid-3D graphics for the narrow suspended raceways. Grand Prix is his new attempt to simulate Formula One warfare. Stunt Car Racer is due to be re-released on budget.

★★★★★

SWITCHBLADE II

Gremlin £24.99 **Platform**

Finally, a platform slice 'em up which gives those pesky Japanese console video games a run for their money. *Switchblade II* is set across six enormous levels with over 600 screens of tense, claustrophobic challenges. There are plenty of power-ups to collect and a huge variety of uglies to blast to smithereens. Hack-tastic, mate!

★★★★

SWIV

Storm £24.99 **Shoot'em-up**

Kind of like a sequel to the durable *Silkworm*. Vertically-scrolling shoot 'em up which pits your craft against all manner of alien fighters. Continuous loading during the game means there's always something to shoot at. Why can't all Amiga games be this smart?

★★★★★

TERMINATOR 2

Ocean/Acclaim £25.99 **Arcade**

Smash movie hit of 1991 should make a cracking good game, right? What there is is well done but lacking in originality. Definitely not all it could be.

★★

THEIR FINEST HOUR: THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN

Lucasfilm Games/US Gold £24.99 **Simulation**

Thrilling and historically accurate air combat simulation set during the crucial summer months of 1940. Players have the choice of flying eight famous planes including the Supermarine Spitfire, Junkers 87 Stuka and Messerschmitt 109. Lots of special features like a mission editor and replay camera with VCR controls. Supplied with exemplary manual.

★★★★★

THUNDERHAWK

Core Design £30.99 **Arcade Simulation**

Near future chopper capers geared towards total action. A mix of slick 3D polygonal graphics and simple easy-to-use controls. There's no better helicopter sim on the Amiga at present. Another best-seller for Core Design.

★★★★★

TOKI

Ocean £24.95 **Platform**

Qualified conversion of the strange coin-op starring a monkey in the leading role. Marvellous bright backdrops and surreal sprites. The basic gameplay isn't that varied.

★★★

ULTIMA VI

Origin/Mindscape £30.99 **Role Playing Game**

Every Ultima is a masterpiece in its own right. Nuff said, mate? Savage Empire and Martian Dreams use the Ultima VI game engine and are now on their way.

★★★★★

UTOPIA

Gremlin £29.99 **Strategy**

Despite a similar look to *Populous*, this is really *SimCity* in space. Can you construct the perfect place to live? Every game presents a new challenge. Possibly Gremlin's best game ever!

★★★★★

VIZ

Virgin Games £19.95 **Sport**

A far better game than everybody was expecting. Adult fun which should annoy any of your prudish friends or relations. Players have the choice of playing Biffa Bacon, Johnny Fartpants or Buster Gonad in a race around the streets of Fulchester. Watch out for cameo appearances by The Fat Slags, Big Vern and Spoilt Bastard. Roger Mellie provides the live commentary. Fans of the comic will love it.

★★★

WARHEAD

Activision £24.99 **Arcade Strategy**

Within the next fifty years Earth will be attacked by horrible insect-like aliens from a nearby star system. The survivors send you, their last hope, to prevent total destruction of the human race. Challenging space simulator with accurate flight dynamics and forty progressively tough missions to conquer. Listen out for the Gary Numan-esque soundtrack during the intro sequence.

★★★★

XENON 2: MEGABLAST

Mirror Image £9.99 **Shoot'em-up**

Bold Bomb the Bass soundtrack and silky Bitmap Brothers graphics. Journey through five stages of evolution blasting everything that moves (or doesn't). An essential buy at a value-for-money price. A benchmark shoot 'em up that has utilised every adjective in the English language for praise.

★★★★

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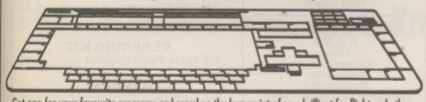
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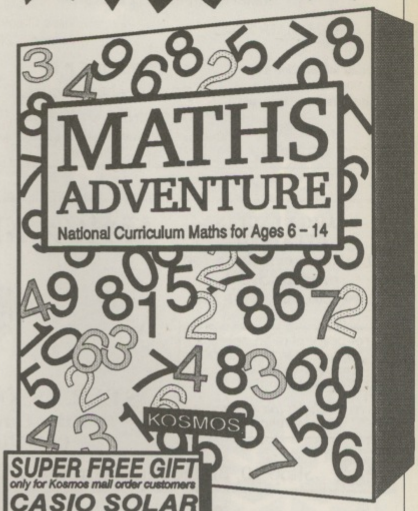


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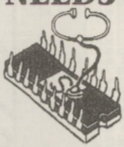
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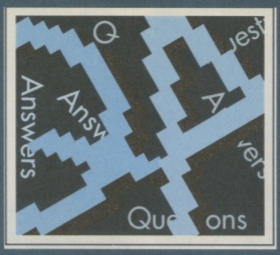
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MEMORY ANOMALY



When I'm using Workbench I often notice a strange effect which I don't understand. It happens when I open a directory window, then load a program.

If I then return to the Workbench screen and close the directory window that I opened to load the program, the amount of free memory displayed in the bar at the top of the screen goes down!

Why does this happen? I can't understand why it costs the computer memory to shut a window. Am I missing something obvious, or is there something sinister afoot?

Michael Dawson, Kemsing, Kent

I don't know if what you're missing would be classed as obvious, Michael, but there's certainly a straightforward explanation to the effects you've noticed.

When you initially load Workbench, the remaining free memory is displayed in the status bar at the top of the screen. This figure is continually revised as you work from the Workbench screen. As soon as you load a program which opens its own output window, that window becomes current, temporarily disabling the Workbench.

Because it's disabled, Workbench no longer updates the free memory figure, so the number shown represents the amount of memory remaining when the program was loaded. When you load a program this figure will remain unchanged on the screen, but in actual fact the program has taken up memory.

When you eventually reactivate the Workbench screen by clicking on it, it becomes current, and finally prints the updated memory figure which will, of course, be lower because your program has taken up some memory.

HARD DRIVE ANIMATIONS



I have recently purchased an A500, and I'm now aiming to buy a hard drive for it. I've noticed that Power Computing stock the GVP series of hard disks, however their advertisement says '8MB of Fast Ram on board'. Could you please tell me if Fast Ram is what's capable of running animations requiring large amounts of memory?

Mr J A.Hall, Shelton, Staffs

No, Fast Ram is not the ideal type of memory for running animations, but Chip Ram is. Having said that, you can use Fast Ram for large animations, but it's not quite as efficient as Chip Ram.

The Amiga includes a special chip called the Blitter, which is very good at moving large blocks of graphics around in memory. Unfortunately, the Blitter can't move graphics stored in Fast memory, so when possible, it's better to store them in Chip Mem. When producing animations that are larger than the available Chip Mem, the computer is capable of transferring graphics from Fast Ram before displaying them. But to do this, it uses the ordinary processor which is considerably slower than the blitter.

For most animation needs, this slowness will not matter as it's only the most demanding of animations that need the speed offered by the Blitter.

Many packages allow you to run animations from Fast Ram including *D-Paint 3/4* and the *Director* to name but two.

WHICH FILE?



Please help me! I have just completed my B-Tech and I would like to put all my notes onto one or more file disks, but what software do I use?

I need text and graphics, but I also need to be able to mix them together. I've tried *Pagesetter* but you can't read the whole of the screen.

Please help.

David Hendricks, Peterborough

There are three possible solutions to your problem, but each depends upon the type of data that you want to store, and the way it's to be output.

Most database, desk-top publishing (DTP) or word processing (WP) systems are designed so that the information created by them will eventually be output to paper. Therefore, their output on the screen is not of the highest quality. Mind you, having said that, regardless of the package you use, the screen output is severely restricted by the resolution of your monitor, and the computer page resolution.

To create the highest level of detail, you'll need to work in high-res or interlace, but unless you own either a flicker fixer, or a multi-sync monitor, the display will appear to flicker and pulsate. If you work under these conditions for long, you risk migraines and eye strain, so they're not really ideal.

At the top end of the market, you could opt for a professional DTP system such as *Professional Page 2.0*. This will allow you to mix text, bit-mapped and structured graphics on a single page. The page can then be magnified up to 200 times to enable you to view particular parts in more detail. The pages can then be output to any dot matrix or laser printer, and post-script format is even supported. Unfortunately, unless you own an accelerator or maths processor, the screen update can be painfully slow as you edit a document. You'll also need lots of memory – 1.5 megs minimum, 4 megs+ ideally.

Another possibility is a database such as *Superbase 4* which provides you with great flexibility when storing information. However, its nature is such that it's not really suited for pages where the page format changes frequently, ie, graphics on one and not on another, inconsistent page layouts etc.

The final option would be a WP package such as *Wordworth* or *Penpal*. Both packages allow you to incorporate graphics into documents, and they both have fast screen updates and good readable text. I find that although *Wordworth* is the more

powerful package, it's not very user-friendly, so my preference would be *Penpal*.

You can buy *Superbase* and *Pro Page 2* from Centresoft, Units 2&3, Holford Way, Holford, Birmingham, B6 7AX. Tel: 021 356 3388. *Wordworth* is available from Digita International Ltd, Black Horse House, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 1JL. Tel: 0395 270273. For details about *Penpal* contact Gordon Harwood Computers, New Street, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE5 7BP. Tel: 0773 836781.

TESSELLATIONS

Do you know of any programs, PD or commercial on Tessellations, ie shapes which interlock 'MC Escher' style?

Clifford Allen, Thatcham, Berks



No, Clifford, I don't know of any programs on that subject, but I'm also a big fan of MC Escher's tessellated studies, and have often wondered whether such a program might exist. Of course, the computer is the ideal medium for designing tessellations because the interlocking shapes (and transformations at advanced level), can be duplicated so quickly and precisely.

For readers who are not familiar with the subject, tessellations are pictures or patterns formed by reproducing one or more perfectly interlocking shapes time and time again. MC Escher, a German mathematician, was fascinated by the subject, and tried to develop the concept to its limits. Far from using simple shapes, his work usually included numerous animals and figures, all interlocked to form the most incredible collages.

It may interest you to know that you can buy a superb book of Escher's work, containing ALL of his famous pieces, reproduced as full-page plates. It's called 'The Graphic Work of MC Escher' and can still be ordered from WHSmiths for about £20.

If any readers know of software which explores this fascinating subject, please let us know as soon as possible.

JOINING ANIMATIONS

Please could you tell me if it's possible to join two separate *D-Paint 3* animations using CLI so that, when played, they appear to be just one continuous animation?



I've tried to do this using *PPAnim*, but the first animation plays until I click the mouse-button, then the second one loads and plays. Obviously I don't want the user to have to press the mouse button at all, and I don't want a break whilst the second half loads.

If it's possible, could you tell me what commands and/or utilities are required to perform the task? My animations are drawn in 8 and 64 colour modes, and between them total 3000 frames!

Michael Lalor, Stradbally, Ireland

A couple of solutions spring to mind, but I suspect that they may be foiled by the difference in colour formats between your pictures.

The first solution requires *D-Paint 3* and enough memory to load both animations at the same time. When you load an animation into *D-Paint*, and then attempt to load a second one, you'll notice an additional option in the File menu called Append. Append allows you to join one animation onto the tail-end of another. However, both animations must share the same screen, page and colour formats.

The ideal solution is to convert your half-brite (64 colour) animation down to eight colours. If this means a loss of colour from your pictures, perhaps you could convert them both into 32 colour mode? If not, convert the eight colour one up to 64 colours and save it to disk.

Load the first half of your animation into memory, then use the Append option to add the second half to it. Now when you save the animation, both halves will be joined.

Another possible solution is to use a utility called the *Director*. The *Director* is an animation scripting language which can be used to make presentations and slide-shows etc. It includes a facility called Buffering, whereby you could load the entire second animation into the computer (memory permitting), ready to begin playing the instant the first one has stopped.

You can get more details on the *Director* from HB Marketing, Unit 3, Poyle 14, Newlands Road, Colnbrook, Slough, SL3 0DX. Tel: 0753 686000.

CDTV PONDERINGS

I was thinking about buying a CDTV, primarily for games use. Using my A500, many games allow me to save scores and game positions, but as the CDTV seems to be a read-only device I can't see how it would be possible to make any kind of save.



At the moment I don't even own a CD player, but I was told that the CDTV can be used as a normal CD player as well. I'd appreciate any information you can give me.

Charlie Streiber, South Ockendon, Kent

You're correct about the CDTV being a read-only device as far as CDs are concerned, but you can purchase memory cards in 64 and 256K sizes, which will allow you to save game information. These removable cards cost £79.99 and £249.99(!) respectively.

As for using the CDTV as a standard CD player: it features 16-bit 8 x oversampling which means that it's capable of noticeably higher sound quality than most ordinary CD players. In addition, it can handle a new CD format called CD + G which stands for Compact Disk + Graphics. When run with the TV or monitor switched on, graphics will be displayed to accompany the music.

STRANGE ASSIGNATIONS

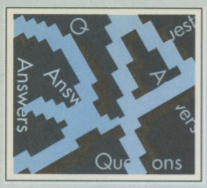
I've been using a word processor called *Scribble!* for a couple of years now, and recently I was fortunate enough to be given a hard drive so I copied the entire *Scribble!* program disk onto the drive.



Scribble! is actually part of a suite of programs called *The Works!*, which includes a spread-sheet, database and dictionary.

Although *Scribble!* loads and runs perfectly, whenever I try to access the dictionary for spell-checking purposes, the program asks me for the original *Works!* disk.

Can this be avoided,



because it's very tedious to have to keep the disk to hand all the time? I must say, it seems pointless using the hard drive if I have to use a floppy for dictionary access, which is the most time consuming part.
Peter Vogt, Teignmouth, Devon

The problem is that the dictionary has been assigned to the *Works!* disk, so that all dictionary access automatically asks for that disk if it's not already inserted.

But don't worry, this can easily be overcome using the ASSIGN command.

Load the hard drive startup-sequence (it's in the S directory), and add the following line somewhere near the end; ASSIGN WORKS!: DH0:SCRIBBLE!

This will now tell the word processor to look in the *Scribble!* directory on your hard drive (partition DH0:).

If your dictionary is in a different directory, or on another partition, simply substitute the correct path name where I've written DH0:SCRIBBLE!

WHAT'S A SAMPLER

I want to take music from my collection and put it onto computer. I gather that I'll need a sound sampler, but I'm interested to know how they work. Is there much difference between the types? Which is the best, and what about value for money?
Javid Simpuhr, Singapore



A sampler is simply a device which converts the analogue waveform of sound, into a digital format which the computer can store and edit.

The sampler 'listens' to the sound, and thousands of times every second it translates what it 'hears' into a number representing the amplitude and frequency. Amplitude is another word for loudness, and frequency means the pitch of a note (ie C natural, D sharp etc).

When a sample is played back from the Amiga, the computer performs a reverse translation, converting the digital signal back to analogue.

As a matter of interest, CD players and DAT machines also store their information in a digital format, whereas ordinary tapes and records use analogue.

The difference between the cheaper samplers is virtually non-existent, and it's only their software that separates them. Once you move up to samplers costing £80 or more, the hardware is often capable of a greater frequency response, which means that they can sample a wider range of sounds, from extremely high pitches, to really low ones. I believe that *Audio Engineer*, which is currently one of the more popular models, is actually capable of sampling sounds far beyond the range of human hearing!

Anyway, my preference is the excellent *Sound Master* from Aegis, which works extremely well and is very user-friendly. It costs £129.95 so it's not really what you'd describe as budget priced, but it is admirably straight forward.

In terms of value for money, *Technosound Turbo*, at about £30, offers the best price-to-features ratio of any sampler and is definitely worth a look if you're new to the joys of sampling.

You can buy *Sound Master* from Centresoft who's phone number is 021 356 3388. For details on *Technosound Turbo* contact New Dimensions at Brooklands House, Bryngwyn, Raglan, Gwent, NP5 2AA. Tel: 0291 690933.



MIDI MUSE

I was going to buy a MIDI compatible keyboard so that I can use my Amiga to make 'proper' music. I already own *Music-X 1.1*, and I thought that if I bought a keyboard and perhaps a drum machine, that I would be set up ready to go.

I've seen a number of keyboards that allow you to select different instruments but they don't let you play more than one instrument at a time, which seems fairly pointless to me.

Would I be able to access two or more instruments at a time via the Amiga or would I have to buy a separate keyboard for each instrument I wanted to play?
Phil Marchess, London

In the first place, you'd also need a MIDI interface to connect your keyboard/s to your Amiga, but once that's out of the way you can start considering which keyboard is best for your requirements.

There are two expressions to be understood when buying keyboards for MIDI use: polyphonic and multi-timbral.

In the early years of electronic keyboards, most of them were only capable of playing a single note at a time, which made it very difficult to generate decent music with a single instrument. Polyphony is the ability of a keyboard to play more than one note at a time. Today, most keyboards are capable of playing either eight or sixteen notes simultaneously, and this even applies to the cheaper Casio and Yamaha keyboards.

Although most cheaper keyboards are polyphonic, they still only have the ability to play one instrument at a time. If you're composing a piano concerto, this is fine, but if you prefer modern music with a variety of instruments, you'll have to look for a multi-timbral keyboard. Unfortunately, these are quite expensive but they do allow you to create richer and more varied music.

If you actually play keyboards, you'll appreciate the fact that most multi-timbral keyboards can be split so that the left hand plays, for example, a bass instrument, whilst the right controls the lead.

If you're not interested in actually playing a keyboard manually, you might prefer to buy a sound module. These are small banks of sounds which have all the facilities of a keyboard-encased version, but without the expense of having to buy a keyboard as well. They're also a good way to expand an existing library of sounds.

Cheetah provide a range of professional keyboards and synth modules, and you can contact them at Norbury House, Norbury Road, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3AS. Tel: 0222 555525.

STARTUP SEQUENCES

Following your tutorials earlier in the year, I've started trying to make my own compilation disks with some success.



Having looked at the startup-sequence that comes with my 1.3.2 Workbench, I encountered the following command which I don't understand: **ADDBUFFERS DF0: 10**. Is this command essential, because I haven't included it in any of my startup-sequences and yet the disks seem to work perfectly? What does it do?
Paul Mitchell, Stamford, Lincs

There are many commands in the Workbench startup-sequence which are completely unnecessary for most disks, and ADDBUFFERS is one such command.

It's used to set the amount of memory allocated for disk drive buffers. Whenever you request a directory of a disk, that information has to be loaded first. Using the Addbuffers command, an area of memory is set aside

by the system for directory information. Therefore the first time you request a directory, it will have to be loaded as usual, but any subsequent directory calls will access a directory list stored within the buffers that were initialised in the startup-sequence.

Although the default size is ten 512 byte buffers (5K), an ideal maximum figure would be 25 buffers (12.5K).

WHAT'S UP, CLOCK?

My Ram expansion includes a battery backed clock, but apart from telling me the time and date (which I can check on my wall clock!) it doesn't seem to serve any useful purpose. Why is it there?

Stephen Hughes, Eastbourne, Sussex

To most users, the battery backed clock doesn't serve much useful purpose, but to hard drive owners, or other users who regularly make back-up copies of precious data, it is invaluable.

When backing up a 105 meg hard drive, you don't really want to duplicate files which are already backed-up elsewhere. Obviously, to make a copy of the entire drive (if it's full) would require at least 105 disks, not to mention several hours to perform the operation. However, back-up utilities such as MRBackup include an option to backup all files created since a certain date.

ANY PROBLEMS?
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Lenny Bradley (T1)

TEST DRIVE
Does anyone know a cheat for this game? My mate, Carn, totally trashed my scores, and I would like my name back on the Hi-score table instead of his.
Kanbi Wong (T2)

LINE OF FIRE
I have been playing this for some time and I can only get to the fourth stage.
Supriya Misra (T4)

F18 INTERCEPTOR
Can somebody please help me? I can't get past the Emergency Defence Operation. It's driving me crackers.
Gerard Tivey (T6)

LICENSED TO KILL
I desperately need a cheat as I keep getting stuck on level two. It's really working me up.
Neil Mckee, (T7)

LIVE AND LET DIE
This game is driving me nuts. Has anyone got a cheat for it? This will kill me soon if I don't get help!
Adam Lucette (T8)

LAST NINJA 2
How on Earth do I complete level one? I can collect a key, a map, a pole, nunchaku and get the hamburger. After this I cannot seem to do anything. What am I doing wrong? Or what am I not doing?
D. Johnston (T10)

SUPER SCRAMBLE
I really need a cheat for unlimited time as I can not get past level D.
Matt Sole (T11)

F19 STEALTH FIGHTER
Can anyone save the pilot on this game.
Upuran Ratti (T12)

SKIDZ
Gimme help! I can't get past the park level. Thanks.
James Huckle (T13)

CAPTAIN BLOOD
Please tell me how to get started. Each time I play I roam the universe meeting aliens who just annoy me so I reach for the power switch.
Ben Stonehouse (T14)

FLOOD
Has anyone got the codes to the levels for this water game.
Gareth Warrington (T16)

ILYAD
A great game, but I am completely stuck. Please give me a cheat.
Steven Murray (T18)

DOGS OF WAR
Help. Has anyone got a cheat for cash and lives? If so, please write in.
Daniel Tuffnell (T19)

ELITE
I've had *Elite* for months, but I've only visited about six planets! I either crash into a space station or get attacked and destroyed between planets. Does anyone have a cheat for more cash to buy better weapons?
Andy Wood (T15)

FULL CONTACT
I can only get past the first 3 levels. Has anyone got a cheat for infinite lives?
Glen Becket (T21)

HEROQUEST
Please send some info for this game. It's driving me 'round the bend.
William Brittain (T22)

AFTERBURNER
Does anybody have a poke for infinite lives please?
Simon Shanks (T23)

T.M.H.T.
Someone please tell me how to get to the Technodrome or how to get into the blimp.
Jukka Hakulinen (T5)

ZAK MCKRAKEN
I can't find the lighter. Can any kind soul help me out?
Geir Ore, (T24)

BLOODWYCH
I am having trouble with the first maze where there is a blue sign saying 'My key I bestow to those who can solve this maze'. I can kill everything in the area, but I get stuck at a door with a gold lock. I have a bronze key, but this will not open any doors and I can't find the key for this one.
Jason Westmacott, (T25)

RESPONSES

PLAYER MANAGER (Q1)
To get money just remove 8-9 players and after two or three big defeats you'll receive sponsorship.
Soren Hartvig, Denmark

RAINBOW ISLANDS (Q3)
Type in some of these codes for various effects: BLRBJSBL – Fast feet, RJSB-JSBR – Double rainbows, SSSLLRRS - Fast rainbows, BJBJBJRS – Hint A, LBSJRLJL – Continues and LJLSLBLS – Hint B.
David Hurdman, Burgh

FANTASY DIZZY (Q5)
You've got the walking stick? Actually it's a crowbar from Grandpa Dizzy, he's at the top of the tree-house complex.
Marcus Opplehine, Maidenhead

BLOOD MONEY (Q8)
Pause the game and press HELP key.
Upram Rath, Singapore

CRIME DOES NOT PAY (Q9)
To get ultimate life pause the game then write HALTBAKK IS THE KING.
Axel Rose, L.A.

ATOMIC ROBOKID (Q10)
Type Tuesday 14th on the title screen to produce a menu which gives access to infinite lives and all weapons.
Simon Hurdman, Burgh

TIME MACHINE (Q12)
Type in your name as DIZZY on the score table. This will give you infinite lives and access to any particular screen by pressing A or S.
Nial Benson, Braintree

THE IMMORTAL (R3)
After using the magic carpet to dodge the trolls, give Anna the ring, then walk around the triangle on the floor three times clockwise.
David Colwell, Lydney

CADAVER (R6)

When you enter Diano's lair, don't wait, go through the middle door and pick up all the gems. This should boost your mind blast up to 240. Go back to his lair and, when he says he's tired, use your mind blast and pick up his head.
Paul Derrick, Scotland

ROCKET RANGER (R8)

To get past the last two guards, follow this guide to the letter and you'll be OK. Keep your 'dukes' up all the time. Wait for the guard to lower his fists and punch his face. When the guard flips his lid and sends an array of punches towards you, don't panic. Keep your guard up and watch carefully for when he does a body blow. Block his attempt by moving down and then give a counter body blow. You should be able to deliver a couple more blows to the face before he flips his lid again. Using this you should beat him with half your life left. It does take a bit of practice to perfect.
Chris Munroe, Middlesex

P-47 THUNDERBOLT (R7)

Type Zebedee on the Hi-score table. During the game press F1. The Complete screen should come up. Press either F1 for infinite lives or F2 to go onto the next level.
Paul Roffey, Barnsley

THUNDER CATS (R9)

Instead of going in the direction of the arrow go in the opposite direction. After a while you will come across the hovercat go back and use this for the wall.
David Wall, Lincoln

ELITE (R11)

You do not have to be at a specific planet to get the Constrictor Mission in *Elite*. The only requirement is that your rating is Dangerous. You are given the mission shortly after you reach this status and you will be told where to locate the Constrictor.
Karl Williams, Wales

RAILROAD TYCOON (R12)

To increase your cash just press Shift and 4. Don't do this too much or the game will crash.
Martin Punt, Holland

THUNDERBLADE (R14)

Type CRASH at the start of the game and press Help to advance levels.
Edwin Lorde, York

PRINCE OF PERSIA (R20)

When you draw your sword don't fight the reflection. Put your sword away and jump into yourself and walk to the left. A path of flies will form below your feet to take you to the next section.
Ben Stonehouse, Crawley

X-OUT (R21)

Buy the dearest ship and the cheapest satellite and you should have 500,000 credits. Pressing Esc advances levels.
Paul Derrick, Scotland

TURRICAN (R27)

On the high score table type in BLUESMOBIL for 99 lives.
Chris Pogioli, London

SWIV (R28)

Pause the game then type NCC-1701 for infinite lives.
Ben Stonehouse, Crawley

KICK OFF 2 (R30)

In mid-match run your finger over the function keys from left to right. S12 or S14 should appear in the top right hand corner. You will now be able to substitute the computer's goalie and the new guy will be completely useless.
Paul Roffey, Barnsley

KICK OFF 2 (R30)

How to save penalties: Simply switch on the autofire on your joystick, or repeatedly hammer the fire button. The goalie will save the ball every time.
E. R. Aarseth, Norway

HOW TO USE THE HELPLINE

IT'S EASY. Just send in your letter, marking your envelope with the appropriate code number if you are sending a response or mark it 'Enquiry' if you need some help. Post your letters to : **Play to Win Helpline, CU, Priory Court, 30-32 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AU**. If you are making an enquiry include a few lines explaining why you need a poke, cheat, help etc.

If you are replying to any of these enquiries, don't forget to mark your letter with the reference code for the person you are responding to. If you send in more than one enquiry, please put each one on a *separate* sheet of paper. If you send in a response but have an enquiry too include them on separate sheets. That way we can file everything in neat alphabetical order.

HAMMERFIST (R33)

Type in TAEHC OT TNAW when you get a high score and F7 will teleport you to the next level.
John Kerr, Bathgate

GODS

On level 2 buy a shield, magic potion, 3 fireballs, 3 stars and buy food with the rest of your money. Collect the 3 gems (fire, ice and water) and collect the world key. Use the shield when you want. Just before you go down the last ladder use the potion and then open the world door. DON'T GO IN. Before you do so make sure you haven't got enough energy to survive contact with a creature. Stand by the door ready to leave and as soon as the thief touches you push up. You will have oodles of lives and the score will keep going up and up.
Trevor Faller, Ely

TERMINATOR 2

Pause the game then press F1 - F10 and then press fire on your joystick to skip levels. If you want to get out of a particular level press the Escape key.
Emmett Hood, Leeds

LEMMINGS

You don't specify which difficulty setting so here they all are: Fun - NJMFLCALDU, TRICKY - CAJJMFMJFR, TAXING - LGANNLFHHL and MAYHEM - LFMGAJNFJY. Also, type FRIGGLY on the title screen and something special will happen.
Ronnie Farrington, Wirral

LOTUS TURBO CHALLENGE 2

The passwords are: TWILIGHT, PEA SOUP, THE SKIDS, PEACHES, LIVERPOOL, BAILEY AND E BOW.
Mark, Steve, Dave and many others, Middlesbrough

POPULOUS

Load a Conquest game as normal. Click on the World icon. Click on Custom Game then on Game Options. Change any options you like then click on OK. Click on Evil then Two Players and Cancel. You should now be in the Conquest game. The upshot of this is that the enemy cannot build or alter any land in any way.
Adam Chapman, Middlesbrough

STRIDER 2

Start the game and type SWIFT. A cheat icon should appear. Pressing E will now replenish Strider's energy, while D will replenish Strider's Robot's energy.
Adrian Worthy, Hull

DEUTEROS

The thing to do is to build a resource station section (2x) and bring them to the planets that need them. Let the shuttle take it down to the surface.
Dion Willemen, Breda Holland

inside information

What's hot and what's rot? Who's climbing the charts and which products have sunk into oblivion? Games, applications and peripherals, they're all given the CU treatment in Inside Information. . .

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW... ABOUT BUGS

Might as well face it, there's no such thing as a free lunch or completely bug-free computer software. So, what actually are these 'bugs' in your favourite games and utility programs?

Any type of computer, no matter how big or small, has to be told exactly what to do, otherwise unforeseen events can occur. Some wag dubbed this phenomenon 'bugs' and the process of eliminating these mistakes 'debugging'.

The reason so many of these glitches appear in personal computer software is that some publishers don't have the resources to thoroughly test their products before putting them out for sale.

Quite a few programmers get very nervous when asked about the bugs in their software. It's like you're accusing them of having acne. Even the laid-back American designers of the Amiga got really annoyed when they tried to get the operating system working properly. This is where the infamous Guru Meditation message stems from. Apparently they would sit down in front of their machines every time a crash occurred and contemplate greater things before attempting any more coding for the day. Otherwise they might have thrown a brick through the screen and we'd be using boring old Atari computers today!

SOME BUGS PREPARED EARLIER...

F-29 RETALIATOR (Ocean)

'Yes, we did have some problems with *F-29*,' admits Phil Alssop of Digital Image Design. 'Do I have to go into them? Um, the reason the first version of *F-29* was so bugged is simple. We had to rush it out to put the game into the Amiga Games Pack from Commodore. We just weren't ready and it wasn't tested very well. You get all sorts of problems if you just sit down in front of your machine and start hacking away. You've got to test a section as you write it.

'Some copies of *F-29* won't draw landscapes if you fly off the map, and if you lower the landing gear when you're outside the game zone, the indicator will light up but the gear won't actually drop. There are many other glitches in the game – see if you can find them.'

'Our latest game, *Robocop 3* for Ocean, had a few bugs but we've fixed them now. We had two programmers working independently on the project, and this is a common cause of problems – everyone blames the faults on their colleagues. Sometimes things go wrong because of hardware faults with the Amiga. The Blitter Line Draw command, for example, will sometimes miss the last six pixels when moving something around the screen.'

KICK OFF 2 (Anco)

'There are probably five or six bugs in *Kick Off 2*,' confirms designer, Steve Screech. 'Bugs are difficult to detect because it's hard getting them to happen every time you play. We only found out about the bugs in *Kick Off 2* after the game had been released, and then it was too late to do anything about them'.

Perhaps the most noticeable mistakes are that corner kicks are taken at the wrong end and substitutes go missing at half-time. In the *Extra Time* accessory disk, if you hold the fire button down the keeper will automatically save the ball. Very handy!

'There's no way to make a totally fool-proof game,' continues Screech, 'only if you're going to give it to one thousand testers for a year, or something like that. Nobody has got the time or money to do that. A program like *Kick Off 2* is very involved. About one third of the development time was spent debugging the software.'

POPULOUS (Electronic Arts)

'We don't have any bugs in our games do we?,' asks creator Peter Molyneux of Bullfrog, 'Oh yes, we do! They're horrible things. I hate them. It's hard to track them down because they usually only manifest themselves in the product that goes out on sale. Anybody who says their game hasn't got any bugs in it is talking rubbish.'

'There are really quite a few bugs in the original version of *Populous*, but not a horrendous amount, I hasten to add. If you build volcano on a particular spot, for instance, then build a house and finally raise the land up to maximum height, it will crash the game. It's embarrassing isn't it?'

'If you're playing a two-player game and a random monster comes up, there is a good chance that the game will crash completely. Actually, there are graphics in there for a random monster that never actually appears, no matter how long you play the game. It's a rock monster who goes around laying down rocks and grabbing people. He is quite a nice little thing. The funny thing is that this bug has been transferred over to the console versions of *Populous*.'

POWERMONGER (Electronic Arts)

'There are probably a few in there but I can't remember them,' swears Peter Molyneux. 'Erm, there is one but I've never actually found it myself. Sometimes, under some weird situation, your main captain turns into a black box which floats all over the place for some reason. It's one of those things that happens once in a hundred games.'

THUNDERHAWK (Core Design)

'I don't think there are any serious bugs. There was originally a bug in the keyboard handler, which meant the game wouldn't work on the Amiga 2000 or 3000 series,' declares the programmer Mark Avory. 'Surface-to-Air Missiles won't seek properly because I got a compare statement round the wrong way in the program, so missiles don't actually see you on radar. This is a very subtle mistake, you shouldn't normally notice it. My 3D system also makes some objects go off the screen if you're really close to them.'

TOP 100 AMIGA GAMES

★★★★★ supreme ★★★★ excellent ★★★ good ★★ fair ★ dodgy

1 Lotus Turbo Challenge 2 (Gremlin) £25.99 ★★★★★
2 Alien Breed (Team 17) £24.99 ★★★★
3 Megalomania (Imageworks) £30.99 ★★★★★
4 Heimdall (Core Design) £34.99 ★★★★★
5 James Pond 2 – Robocod (Millennium/US Gold) £25.99 ★★★★★
6 Return to Europe (Anco) £7.99 ★★★
7 Bubble Bobble (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★★★
8 Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker (Virgin Games) £29.99 ★★★★★
9 Shadow of the Beast (Sizzlers) £7.99 ★★
10 Final Fight (US Gold) £25.99 ★★★
11 TV Sports Football (Mirror Image) £9.99 ★★★
12 Fantasy World Dizzy (Codemasters) £6.99 ★★
13 Rugby – The World Cup (Domark) £24.99 ★★★
14 New Zealand Story (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★★★
15 Wacky Races (HiTec Software) £7.99 ★★
16 Terminator 2 (Ocean) £25.99 ★★
17 Lombard RAC Rally (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
18 Altered Beast (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
19 Dragon Ninja (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
20 PGA Tour Golf (Electronic Arts) £25.99 ★★★★★
21 Scooby-Doo and Scrappy-Doo (HiTec Software) £7.99 ★★
22 Head Over Heels (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★★★★★
23 Populous (Star Performers) £10.99 ★★★★★
24 Full Contact (Team 17) £9.99 ★★
25 Knights of the Sky (Microprose) £34.99 ★★★★
26 Board Genius (Beau Jolly) £29.99 ★★
27 Little Puff (Codemasters) £6.99 ★
28 Batman – The Movie (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★★★
29 North and South (Digital Integration) £7.99 ★
30 4D Sports Boxing (Mindscape) £25.99 ★★★★
31 Chase HQ (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
32 Heroes of the Lance (Kixx) £7.99 ★★
33 Steve Davis World Snooker (Blue Ribbon) £7.99 ★
34 Magic Pockets (Renegade/Mindscape) £25.99 ★★★
35 Ninja Rabbits (Micro Value) £6.99 ★
36 Silent Service II (Microprose) £34.99 ★★★
37 Power Drift (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
38 Pro Boxing (Codemasters) £7.99 ★
39 Manchester United Europe (Krisalis) £25.99 ★★★★
40 Secret of Monkey Island (Lucasfilm Games/US Gold) £29.99 ★★★★
41 Bloodwych (Mirror Image) £9.99 ★★
42 Final Blow (Storm) £25.99 ★★
43 Super Space Invaders (Domark) £24.99 ★★★
44 Air Combat Aces (Ubisoft) £30.99 ★★★★
45 Pitfighter (Domark) £24.99 ★★
46 Turrican (Kixx) £7.99 ★★★★
47 Eye of the Beholder (SSI/US Gold) £30.99 ★★★★★
48 Thunderhawk (Core Design) £30.99 ★★★★★
49 Kick Off 2 (Anco) £24.99 ★★★★★
50 Lemmings (Psygnosis) £25.55 ★★★★★
51 Deuteros (Activision) £25.99 ★★★★
52 Face Off Ice Hockey (Krisalis) £25.99 ★★
53 Rainbow Collection (Ocean) £19.99 ★★★★
54 Cabal (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
55 Xenon II (Mirror Image) £9.99 ★★★★★
56 First Samurai (Imageworks) £30.99 ★★★★★
57 Supercars (GBH) £7.99 ★★
58 World Class Leaderboard (Kixx) £7.99 ★★
59 Utopia (Gremlin) £29.99 ★★★★
60 Defender of the Crown (Mirror Image) £9.99 ★★★
61 F15 Strike Eagle II (Microprose) £29.99 ★★★★★
62 The Simpsons (Ocean) £25.99 ★★★
63 Austerlitz (Mirror Image) £9.99 ★★★★
64 Turbo Outrun (Kixx) £7.99 ★
65 Nitro (Sizzlers) £7.99 ★★★
66 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (Kixx) £7.99 ★
67 Fun School 4 for 7-11 (Europress Software) £24.99 ★★★
68 Mean Machine (Codemasters) £7.99 ★★
69 World Class Rugby (Audiogenic) £25.99 ★★★
70 Microprose Golf (Microprose) £34.99 ★★★★
71 ATF 2 (Action 16) £9.99 ★
72 Treasure Island Dizzy (Codemasters) £4.99 ★★★
73 Titanic Blinky (Zeppelin) £7.99 ★
74 Outrun Europa (Us Gold) £25.99 ★
75 Ghostbusters 2 (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
76 The Immortal (Star Performers) £10.99 ★★★
77 Cruise for a Corpse (Delphine/US Gold) £27.99 ★★★★★
78 Beach Volley (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★★★
79 3D Pool (Mirror Image) £9.99 ★★
80 Shadow Sorcerer (SSI/US Gold) £27.99 ★★
81 Fireblaster (Pocket Power) £2.99 ★
82 Strikefleet (Electronic Arts) £25.99 ★★
83 Shinobi (Mastertronic) £7.99 ★★
84 Skyhigh Stuntman (Codemasters) £7.99 ★
85 Fun School 4 for 5-7 (Europress Software) £24.99 ★★★
86 Football Manager (Pocket Power) £2.99 ★★
87 Movie Premier (Elite) £29.99 ★★
88 Championship Run (Zeppelin) £7.99 ★
89 Miami Chase (Codemasters) £7.99 ★
90 Red Heat (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
91 Flight of the Intruder (Spectrum Holobyte/Mirrorsoft) £34.99 ★★★★
92 Voyager (Hit Squad) £7.99 ★
93 Soccer Match (Impressions) £7.99 ★
94 European Superleague (CDS) £24.99 ★★
95 Iron Lord (Action 16) £9.99 ★
96 Artificial Dreams (Pocket Power) £2.99 ★
97 Impossamole (GBH) £7.99 ★★
98 The Games – Summer Edition (Kixx) £7.99 ★★★★
99 Final Whistle (Anco) £12.99 ★★★
100 Kick Off – Winning Tactics (Anco) £12.99 ★★★

Charts supplied by Gallup (071 794 0461) ratings courtesy of the CU AMIGA team.

TOP TEN GAMES IN USA

1 Police Quest III (Sierra Online)
2 Rise of the Dragon (Dynamix/Sierra Online)
3 Leisure Suit Larry V (Sierra Online)
4 Might and Magic III (New World Computing)
5 Wing Commander II (Origin)
6 Gunship 2000 (Microprose)
7 Pools of Darkness (SSI)
8 Silent Service II (Microprose)
9 Earl Weaver II (Electronic Arts)
10 Wing Commander II Speech Accessory Disk (Origin)

Charts supplied by LOGiN magazine in Japan.

TOP TEN PERIPHERALS

1 GVP A500 Hard Drive, HD+
2 RocTec Genlock RocGen
3 Seikosha Printer SP1900AI
4 GVP Sound Sampler DSS
5 ATonce PC Emulator
6 Citizen Printer Swift 9
7 Philips Monitor 8833
8 RocTec Genlock RocGen Plus
9 Citizen Printer Swift 24
10 RocTec Disk Drive

Charts supplied by Silica Systems (081 309 1111).

WORLD FAMOUS SPRITES

1 Super Mario Bros
2 Space Invaders
3 Pacman
4 Sonic the Hedgehog
5 Double Dragon

DID YOU KNOW?

• Many violent games can only be sold in 'sex shops' in certain parts of Germany.

• Digital Image Design, creators of *F-29 Retaliator* and *Robocop 3*, predicted a war in Kuwait months before those Iraqi tanks rolled over the border last year.

• Japan is the most expensive place in the world to buy Amiga software. Any global travellers looking for a bargain should check out sunny Spain.

LISTEN FOR A LIFETIME

It's a familiar everyday story. You're on the train, tube or bus and a person nearby has their Walkman cranked up to maximum volume. Not only is the noise annoying, but it could actually be causing some physical damage to their ears. Now the Electronic Industries Association of America is trying to make the general public aware of potential hearing loss by promoting the safe use of electronic entertainment equipment.

Hearing damage and loss is one of the most widespread yet invisible handicaps in the world today. The National Institute of Health in the USA estimates approximately 10 million Americans have suffered some hearing loss impairments as a result of exposure to high-intensity sound system.

The hazardous zone of decibel levels begins at approximately 75 decibels, which includes items such as average town traffic, rubbish disposals or an alarm clock ringing up to two feet away. High sound pressure levels (loud noises) can damage or kill the fine hair cells in the inner ear. Hearing progressively deteriorates as more hair cells are damaged or destroyed.

Damage to your hearing can be short term (known as temporary threshold shift) or long term (called permanent threshold shift). Short term often clears itself with little recognisable hearing loss while long term damage is often irreversible.

Warning! If you're suffering from any sort of hearing loss, please consult your doctor.

TOP TEN GOD SIMS

1 Populous II (Bullfrog)
2 Megalomania (Imageworks)
3 Populous (Electronic Arts)
4 Powermonger (Electronic Arts)
5 Utopia (Gremlin)
6 SimCity (Maxis)
7 Castles (Interplay)
8 SimEarth (Maxis)
9 Realms (Virgin Games)
10 Moonbase (Wesson International)

TOP PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

1 Machine Code
2 'C' 3 AMOS 4 BASIC
5 Fortran 6 Forth 7 Cobol



DECIBEL LEVELS OF NOISE

0 Lowest sound available to the human ear
30 Quiet library, soft whispers
40 Living room, refrigerator, a bedroom away from traffic
50 Normal conversation, quiet office
60 Air conditioner at 20 feet, sewing machine
70 Vacuum cleaner, hair dryer, noisy restaurant
80 Average city traffic, rubbish disposals, alarm clock at two feet (these noises can be damaging under constant exposure)
90 Tube, motorcycle, truck traffic, shop tools, lawn mower (damage may occur in eight hours or less of exposure)
100 Rubbish truck, chain saw (less than 15 minutes of unprotected exposure is recommended)
120 Rock band concert, thunderclap (danger is immediate. This exposure can damage your ears).
140 Gunshot blast, jet plane (beyond the reasonable threshold of pain, any unprotected exposure is dangerous)
180 Rocket launching pad (noise at this level causes irreversible damage and tends to be rather hot!)

CALLING ALL VIDEOPHILES!

Sometimes you need to inject some visual trickery into your home video epics. If your Amiga genlock is being overloaded with a stream of special effects, Panasonic has released a Digital Effects Generator to help ease the strain.

'Anyone who has ever wanted to produce music videos like the pros or give a slick artistic look to ordinary home videos will welcome our newgadget,' confidently predicts a spokesperson, 'more and more amateurs are getting into editing and producing their videos in a big way.'

The Digital Effects Generator can act in unison with your Amiga to create some dazzling video sequences. Apart from adding a hazy or surreal look to the picture, you're able to reduce the screen image by 75% and place it in any one of nine different positions. Digital Mosaic breaks down the image into hundreds of squares, providing an abstract geometric feel. With the monaural colour effect, you can cast a single tint over an entire image to project mood or a dream-like quality. Individual frames can be rapidly or slowly flashed on the screen for a stroboscopic effect.

These digital video effects can be combined with one another if so desired. Best of all, these effects can be synchronised to the beat of accompanying music. An audio mixer provides precise level control over sounds from three sources.

TOP TEN PRINTER MAKERS

1 Seikosha
2 Citizen
3 Epson
4 Mannesmann Tally
5 Cannon
6 Olivetti
7 Brother
8 Hewlett-Packard
9 Panasonic
10 Samsung

TOP TEN COIN-OP CONVERSIONS

1 Golden Axe (Sega/Virgin Games)
2 Rainbow Islands (Taito/Ocean)
3 Silkworm (Virgin Games)
4 Smash TV (Williams/Ocean)
5 Super Monaco GP (Sega/US Gold)
6 Toki (Ocean)
7 Rodland (Storm)
8 R-Type II (Irem/Activision)
9 Hard Drivin' (Atari/Domark)
10 Super monaco GP (Sega/US Gold)

THE WAY WE WERE...

THREE YEARS AGO

• Psygnosis started talking about *Aquaventura*, a marvellous space opera featuring the best 3D graphics ever seen. We're still waiting to see the results...

• Sega's *Galaxy Force II* and *Powerdrift* video games hit the arcades. Data East released the coin-operated adaption of Ocean's successful *Robocop* title.

• Prism unveiled a 'mega' computer game based around the storyline of a failed stage musical! *The Kristal* didn't manage to start a new trend. Anybody fancy a go at Cats or Les Miserables?

TWO YEARS AGO

• The world's first computer supermarket opened in California. Us Brits had to wait until last month for a similar sort of store.

• Organisation Against Sexism in Software (OASIS) celebrated its first year of existence. Founder Sandra Vogel said: 'I can see no reason why stereotypes of women should be used in computer games'.

• Rainbow Arts produced one of the slickest shoot 'em ups yet seen on the Amiga. *X-Out* incorporated fast action, smooth-scrolling screens and some mean looking end-of-level boss sprites. A snippet of the hyped advert read: '*X-Out* is the first of a "new wave" in software development. Computer entertainment developed on the computer for the computer.' Erm, quite!

ONE YEAR AGO

• Bullfrog revealed plans to make a World War One accessory disk for *Powermonger*. Like the first event, we had to wait a long time to see it completed. Expect a full review next issue.

• Fnaarrr! Fnaarrr! Fnaarrr! Virgin Games finished an interactive version of the adult comic Viz.

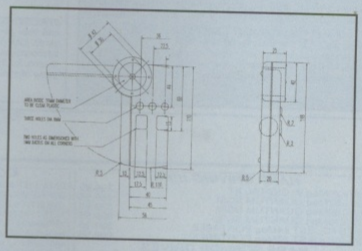
• Broderbund's smart arcade adventure *Prince of Persia* was awarded a CU Screen Star. Our faithful and now sadly departed staff writer Mark Patterson reckoned: 'All the elements come together extremely well to form a game which is both playable and enduring. One of the most interesting games I've seen in a long time'.

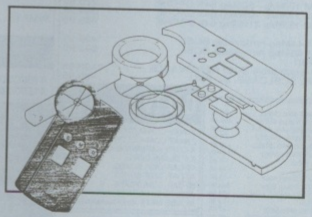
SCAN AND DELIVER

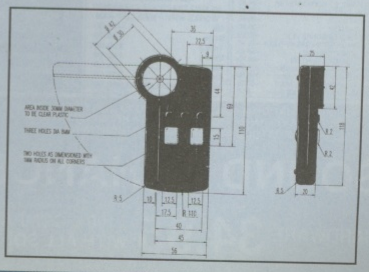
Avid CU AMIGA reader Trevor Wilkinson from Cleveland has devised an ingenious mouse which doubles as a scanner! With such a peripheral you can not only control software in the normal way but also transfer ordinary paper or photographic images into graphics packages like *Deluxe Paint IV*.

'The Mini Scanner works by pulling the scanning arm out from the main console which then clicks into position ready for use,' reveals clever Trevor. This arm is pressed over an image while the scanning button is depressed. The scanned image is then reproduced on the screen using a special program.

If these technical drawings are beyond your soldering skills, write for more details by sending an SAE to: Trevor Wilkinson, 58 Boulby Road, Cleveland TS10 5EA.







"NOW HAS THE 1991/92 FOOTBALL LEAGUE/NFL PLAYER DATA"



DIVISION ONE 92

"(The Midnight Oil) treat soccer in the sophisticated way Americans treat their national games."

— The Guardian

THE GAME. Everyone has his own ideas on what makes a soccer team "tick". Here is the opportunity to put into practice your own ideas. Operating from the English 1st Division you must build a squad to challenge for the league title, the FA and League Cups and the 3 European trophies. And as players age, rebuild the team while holding off relegation.

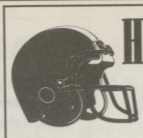
SQUADS/TRANSFER MARKET. In a 3 squad system (1st team squad, reserve squad and youth squad), use the continuous intake of youth players and training program to create a squad whose skills reflect your ideas. Supplement these skills with carefully selected transfer market acquisitions. As they age, veterans fade and youngsters develop, keep a sharp eye on the changing skills of your team.

SKILLS. All players have a balance of 5 skills (no "skill levels") which you must discover by experimenting with your team. Even more important will be your judgement about the effect of the particular team balance or skill combination on the outcome of a match, and subsequently a season of football. Suitable trianing can develop/enhance skills or sustain the stamina of ageing/injured players.

MATCH/STATS. Your judgement will be put to the test in this unique 4 minute match/stats simulation against accurately simulated opposition. This is the measure of your team and your most reliable source of information. There are displays of: match flow, two teams, player-with-the-ball, injuries, discipline, substitutions, in-match tactics, goalscorers, possession breakdown and performance assessment.

WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS GAME?

Sophisticated "AI" techniques replace "skill levels". Judgement replaces mental arithmetic. Intelligence replaces luck. Division One 92 is a simulation of the world of the soccer manager. Its fascination comes from its closeness to the real thing, its addictive quality is that of soccer itself.



HEADCOACH V3

"When it comes to the 4th down Headcoach has it". "Head Coach", "TV Sports Football" head to head.

(Pop Comp.)

THE GAME. HeadCoach is the complete American Football simulation. You take charge of the latest recruit to the NFL, and through skilful design of gameplans and the use of the college draft, build up a 45 man squad to keep your fans happy and win the Superbowl. Unlimited seasons and ageing players produce a realistic game of fluctuating fortunes.

THE MATCH. The match is a game in itself taking about 40 minutes to complete. With 26 offensive plays and 21 defensive plays, there is ample scope to match your game-plan to the skills of your squad, and exploit the weaknesses of the opposition. It's here where the strengths and weaknesses of your players are highlighted.

TRAINING CAMP. An opportunity to assess your players before they take the field. The appropriate coach will give you his view of the current form of any of the players and how they are performing in training. A 40 yard timed run will reveal their sharpness. Wide receivers, running backs, linebackers, cornerbacks and safeties need to shine here.

COLLEGE DRAFT. During the 16 match season, plus whatever playoff matches you achieve, you will find yourself praying for a second classy running back or wide receiver, or need to beef up your offensive line (too many sacks). The college draft should be used to find those stars of the future and make sure they're playing for you.

STATISTICS. The statistics centre will encapsulate your team's and your players' season. Total yards, rushing yards, passing yards, kick-off returns, punt returns (and averages for all these), interceptions, sacks... all these are kept for each match, the whole season, for the team and for each player. American Football is a game of stats and we retain that.

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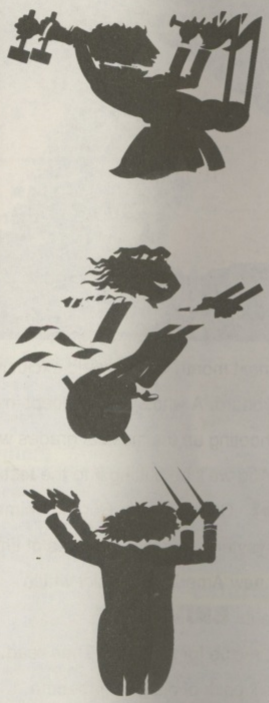
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Zero: Now under normal circumstances cheap usually means poor quality but this is not the case with Rombo. Why? cos Vidi-Amiga is the best digitiser for under £500 and I've tried them all.

Amiga Format: Where quality is concerned, Vidi produces some of the best results I've seen on any digitiser at any price.

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